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THE
BRITISH CRITIC,
A NEW REVIEW,

FOR
JULY, AUGUST, SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER,
NOVEMBER, AND DECEMBER.

M DCC XCVIII.

Reddere Personæ scit convenientia cuique. Hon.



VOLUME XII.

London :
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1798.



P R E F A C E.

THE general favour with which books of Travels are received, gives us an inclination to represent our Prefaces as allied to that species of composition. We are, however, kinder to our readers than the generality of travel-writers. The hardships they encounter are generally detailed at full length; frequently, perhaps, not without exaggeration: even sea-sickness has been minutely and copiously described, as a new phenomenon, by a very late voyager. But we, whatever sickness or weariness we may have felt, in our progress through many dreary paths of Literature, have determined to communicate to our readers only the pleasing parts of our journey. We could indeed, were we disposed to indulge a satirical humour, amuse the public occasionally, by the recital of many lamentable adventures; the difficulties we encounter in one place, the ingratitude that assails us in another; our wanderings through Boeotian mists, from which when we emerge, we are told that we ought to have described an Athens. But not perceiving that the cause of Literature would be benefited by such confessions, we are content with a harmless laugh among ourselves, and persist in our plan of laying the fair side only before the public, in

our half yearly recapitulation. We begin, as our sense of its importance has always suggested, with

DIVINITY.

Few books of enlarged discussion or instruction in theological matters having been examined by us in the present volume, the most important publications we have here to notice are the several collections of Sermons. The late worthy master of Merchant-Taylor's School, *Mr. Bishop*, was first known to us as a poet*; we now hail him with equal satisfaction as a divine, from his Sermons lately published†. The discourses are plain, practical, and pious; evincing the amiableness of his character, as well as the acuteness of his understanding. Our next author in this department was *Mr. G. Glasse*‡, whom we found, as we expected, sensible, zealous, and scriptural. Were we to appreciate his powers by this volume, we should do him great injustice. We know him to possess much more than is there displayed. His business there was to instruct, not to surprise. *Dr. Huntingford's* second volume§ was well calculated to rank with his first||; valuable not only for the substance of the discourses, but for the excellent and learned illustrations subjoined throughout the notes. The Sermons of the late excellent *Mr. Southgate*¶, well deserved to be collected and laid before the public; the strength of original thought by which that very sincere and able divine had the talent of illustrating the most common, and apparently exhausted subjects, forms a striking characteristic of his discourses: which in all respects are sound, orthodox, pious, instructive, and practical. *Dr. Henry Owen*, a learned and acute commentator on the Hebrew and Greek Scriptures, might have been expected to leave some

* Brit. Crit. vol. viii, pp. 460, 637. † No. I. p. 29. ‡ No. II. p. 168. § No. III. p. 256. || See vol. vii, p. 293. ¶ No. V. p. 520.
discourses

discourses stamped with the same character; but his *Sermons*, noticed in this volume*, aspire to no merit of that kind; they are clear and sensible, but might have been produced by a man of less extraordinary talents. The volume entitled *Naval Sermons*†, published by Mr. J. S. Clarke, must not be omitted in this enumeration. They are written with ability, and are animated by a spirit likely to diffuse a strong and useful effect among the hearers. Of a more general nature are the publications which we shall next mention; not indeed sufficiently elaborate to take place of the volumes just enumerated, but too valuable to be omitted. Such are Mr. Cowe's *Religious and Philanthropic Tracts*‡, Mr. King's Tract on the *Signs of the Times*§, and Mr. Roberts's *Observations on Christian Morality*||. The second of these, in particular, investigates with so much ability the apparent fulfilment of prophecies, that few readers can fail to be struck with the probability of his conjectures. Our Liturgy, always worthy of admiration, is illustrated in a very useful and striking manner by Mr. Biddulph, in his *Essays on several Parts of the Liturgy*¶, where he shows himself at once a sound and a zealous divine. Mr. Collier's *Essays on the New Testament*** may give instruction to many who have not the opportunity of seeking it in more elaborate commentaries. The *Tocstu*, written thirty years ago in French by M. Dutens††, in opposition to the machinations of Voltaire and Rousseau, is brought forward at this time, with great propriety, as a powerful antidote against Atheism. A few single Sermons must finally be mentioned, among which we cannot deny a principal place to that of Dr. Rennet‡‡, preached before the University of Cambridge, on July 1, 1798. It is truly an able discourse; full of extensive and profound knowledge, and an highly vi-

* No. VI. p. 652.

† No. V. p. 549.

‡ No. III. p. 263.

§ No. IV. p. 418.

|| No. IV. p. 432.

¶ No. VI. p. 582.

** No. VI. p. 628.

†† No. VI. p. 675.

‡‡ No. V. p. 545.

gorous and animated composition. Of a different character, but very high also in merit, is the discourse of *Mr. Sawkins**, at Christ Church, Oxford, on the 29th of May. Rich in the stores of English history, this preacher illustrates the present times by the past, in a manner which will not frequently be rivalled. *Dr. Valpy's* Discourse†, noticed with this, is remarkable, among other things, for its coincidence with *Mr. King's*, in his calculations respecting prophecy. The illustration of a well-known difficulty in the 109th Psalm, by *Mr. Partridge‡*, of Boston, Lincolnshire, seems to clear away all remaining difficulties, opposed to an interpretation, which the most judicious among the late commentators have considered as the right. Among Sermons produced at the meetings of military associations, that of *Dr. Wilkes*, and of *Mr. G. Glassey*§, deserve particular mention. These occasions are solemn and impressive, and few preachers can have treated them in a manner more proper or more useful. To what class we make our transition from this primary object, cannot be very material; but since, from the increased necessity of inculcating the duties of citizens, as a part of Christian morality, Divinity and Politics have been of late more intimately connected, we shall proceed at present in the line which is thus laid down.

POLITICS.

No works of great magnitude offer themselves to notice in this class; but many valuable tracts have appeared, the best of which we shall here recapitulate. The *Considerations on the present Times*, by *Mr. Dean Nickolls¶*, with the *Warning of the Church of Scotland*, form a publication of the most excellent kind. The "Considerations" are introductory to the

* No. V. p. 546.
 § No. III. p. 268.

† No. V. p. 548.
 ¶ No. III. p. 287.

‡ No. IV. p. 429.
 ¶ No. I. p. 81.
 "Warning."

P R E F A C E.

"Warning," and both are, in the highest degree, sound, rational, and pious. Another tract under the title of *Considerations*, strongly fixed our notice. It is the third part of "Considerations on the State of Public Affairs, in the Year 1798*." Though on several points we differ entirely from this anonymous writer†, yet on very many we accord with him so less completely; and think both his reasonings sound, and his language forcible and appropriate. A fourth part was promised, on the Affairs of Ireland: which, if this author has exercised his sagacious mind on the subject of the Union, we should be very desirous to see. *M. Neckar's* book on the French Revolution, of which we lately announced a translation‡, would have been eagerly received by the world, had not so much been published before, and had not the author been too much implicated in many of the events to be likely to preserve an unwarped judgment. A book of much more important information, at the present moment, is that of *Sir F. D'Ivernois*, "on the Administration of the French Republic, during the Year 1797§." From documents undeniably authentic, this author proves completely the very ruinous state of the French Finances. Yet, notwithstanding the truth of all this, the folly and pusillanimity of some states, and the perversion of others, still keep the monster but too vigorous and formidable to all Europe. The publication of the *Intercepted Letters*|| from Buonaparte and his officers, illustrates another branch of French History; the gratitude of the Republican Directory to their best officers and soldiers; and the very comfortable situation into which they send them to repose from the toils of conquest! It throws also some very brilliant light on the Glorious Victory of Lord Nelson. A tract "on the State of the Country (England) in the Autumn of 1798¶,"

* No. II. p. 149. † Supposed to be Mr. Bentley. ‡ No. III. p. 300. § No. VI. p. 601. || No. VI. p. 614. ¶ No. VI. p. 681.
displayed

displayed so much political knowledge, that it was attributed to a nobleman already famous for similar discussions. Whoever was the author, the pamphlet was well-written, and well-timed. A very spirited remonstrance to the French Directory on their infamous conduct towards Switzerland*, was written by Lavater, and published here in a translation. We think it well deserving of notice, and wish that it should find an extensive circulation. On the very momentous national subject of an Union with Ireland, one of the best tracts (perhaps the very best) that have yet appeared, is that of *Mr. Cooke*, entitled, *Arguments for and against an Union between Great Britain and Ireland*†. It will be found, however, in the number published with this Preface, that we have now entered more deeply into the question than we could while that pamphlet was before us. The *Remarks on the Conduct of Opposition*, by a writer styling himself *Geoffrey Mowbray, Esq.* but attributed with some reason to *Mr. Nolan*, place many important points in a new and striking light. The curiosity which might be excited by our brief account of it, would be by no means disappointed on recurrence to the tract itself. In an able tract, entitled *A Letter on Finance, &c.* *Mr. John Charnock*, threw out some novel and bold, but, in our opinion, not ill-founded notions on that complicated subject. Their tendency is diametrically opposite to the ideas of *Mr. Morgan*, and the calculators of his class, who have endeavoured to enlist arithmetic as an auxiliary to Opposition. *The Suffolk Freeholder* (whom we thank for the communication of his name) certainly found the real strength of his talents when he applied them to the composition of political tracts. His *Thoughts on Mr. Fox's Secession*|| well deserve to rank with his former publications of that nature, and we

* No. III. p. 315.
§ No. IV. p. 435.

† No. VI. p. 670.
|| No. I. p. 83.

‡ No. II. p. 192.

could

could not easily give a stronger commendation in so few words. *Mr. Ranby*, whom we mistook at first for the same writer, stands respectably on his own ground, and has well opposed one of the most virulent assailants of all who will not yield to France*. They who wish for a picture of the advantages to be gained by Republican government, will do well to consult the *Republican Budget*, published in America, by honest *Cobbet*, the well known and vigorous *Peter Porcupine*; and republished here. They will see there, by a very clear narrative, how much more truly the freedom of the press exists in England than in America; where it has been so much boasted by *Dr. Priestley*, and his friends, on this side of the Atlantic. As a general manual of politics, containing great abundance of valuable information in a little compass, and at a moderate price, we cannot easily recommend any thing so good as *Thomas's Cause of Truth*†. Splendour of appearance has wisely been sacrificed for the sake of better objects, and the work deserves to be widely circulated. The idea of contrasting *His Majesty's Speeches* as it really was, at the opening of the present session, with what it might, and must have been had the counsels of certain advisers been followed, was one of those fortunate hits which, even moderately executed, must have produced a good effect. But it had also justice done to it in the composition, and therefore well deserved the praises we conferred. In concluding this head, we must not omit once more to mention, though briefly, a little compilation wholly devoid of original matter, called the *The British Navy Triumphant*‡. It contains little more than the Gazette accounts of the four great naval victories; but it is sold cheap, and well worthy of circulation.

* No. III. p. 316.
 § No. V. p. 551.

† No. V. p. 472.
 ‡ Ibid.

‡ No. V. p. 533.

LAW.

Bacon's Abridgment, compiled without sufficient skill from the papers of Lord Chief Baron Gilbert, is become a valuable and excellent book, in the republication of *Mr. Gwillim**. The student of law will rejoice also in the collection of *Juridical Arguments*, published by *Mr. Hargrave*†; a writer to whom the literature of that profession has many and great obligations. *Mr. Browne's* first volume on the *Civil Law*‡, may afford a useful aid to the student of common law, in obtaining some general knowledge of that collateral department; and the completion of his plan will doubtless be an object of expectation to such readers. A professional man, of the name of *Wood*, has also begun a publication on *Tube Causes*, which promises to be useful. In reverting to these works we assuredly render a service to the profession, as well as to the authors. But to proceed.

HISTORY.

We do not find much in the present volume that strictly deserves to stand in this class. To *Mr. Noble's Memoirs of the House of Medici*||, we will not deny a place in it, though it is more strictly one of those works which give the outline rather than the complete substance of historical narrative. *The History of the New World*¶, by *Don Juan Bapt. Munoz*, being drawn from new and peculiarly authentic sources, well deserves to be made our own by a translation; we have announced the first volume of the work; and hope to see it proceed with success. Our colony

* No. III. p. 255, IV. p. 341. † No. V. p. 453. ‡ No. VI. p. 586. § No. II. p. 185. || No. III. p. 319. ¶ No. VI. p. 591.

in New South Wales has been fortunate in attaining early historians. The accounts before published from Governor Phillips's papers, and other documents, were respectable and good: but *Mr. Collin's**, who was lately Judge Advocate in the settlement, has formed the whole into a regular narrative, from 1788 to the time of his departure. The *Journal* of poor *Cery†*, relating the last melancholy act of his Royal Master's unhappy tragedy, has a simplicity, and a character of truth, much more affecting than any eloquence. Whoever would know, beyond all doubt, to what a degree the ideas connected with democratic pride and insolence are capable of hardening and depraving the human heart, may see a perfect picture of those effects in the behaviour of the French Assembly and its agents, towards the mildest and most benevolent of men: towards a master, whose feet they would have licked, had he been, what they dared to call him, a tyrant; and whom they murdered, because he wished to make them happy. May the latest posterity be warned by the example! The miserable narrative of the *Overtbrow of Switzerland‡*, *The Fall of Underwald§*, in particular, and the sufferings related by *Charles Jackson||*, all tend to the same point; and prove to demonstration how completely unhumanized the hearts become, that once submit to the guidance of French counsels, or French principles.

BIOGRAPHY.

Very considerable is the accession made to the stores of Biography in our language, by the late republication of the *General Biographical Dictionary¶*, now amounting to fifteen volumes, closely printed, in octavo. Many more than three thousand lives have been added in this edition; and, among them, no

* No. IV. p. 364. † No. I. p. 86. ‡ No. III. p. 314.
§ No. VI. p. 682. || No. VI. p. 645. ¶ No. III. p. 245. IV. p. 373.
b small

small number of such as will interest every reader. The accounts of persons recently dead are brought down as near as possible to the time of publication, and include many names of great consequence. Former omissions are also supplied, and the style generally improved. But a single life, however important, seldom obtains so minute and careful a delineation, as *Mr. Coxe* has bestowed on that of *Sir Robert Walpole**. It forms a copious history of the time in which that very able man bore a part in the counsels of Parliament or of administration; and is followed by two ample volumes of state-papers, obtained from many noble families. The spirit and tendency of the work is also highly laudable. The life of that great and singular genius, *Mr. Burke*, till it can be furnished by those friends whose long intimacy has enabled them best to trace his character, and authenticate the facts relating to him, may be read with pleasure and advantage in the publication of *Dr. Bisset*†. Unlike those insidious historians, who write the narrative of a man's actions for the sake of depreciating his worth, this author writes with candour, and appears to judge with equity.

ANTIQUITIES.

The very elaborate work of *Mr. Gough*, on the *Sepulchral Monuments of Great Britain*‡, having proceeded to a second volume, begins itself to form a monument that will bear the strongest and most durable testimony to the industry and abilities of the author. The expence of printing such a work might of itself deter an author, whose zeal in the cause of letters was not supported by certain aids which authors cannot often command; and the possession of which would damp the ardour of many, who now wield the pen at the command of the well-known

“ Magister artium, ingenique largitor.”

* No. III. p. 213. IV. p. 395.

† No. III. p. 296.

‡ No. I. p. 1.

*The Baronage of Scotland**, begun by Sir Robert Douglas, Bart. and continued by some anonymous compilers, apparently well qualified for the task, may be considered as a book of Antiquities. The first volume we lately praised, and shall be glad to have an opportunity of delivering our sentiments upon the continuation of the work†.

TOPOGRAPHY.

A rival to his friend Mr. Gough, in magnitude of volume, *Mr. Nichols* continues to illustrate the county of *Leicester*, by successive volumes on its topographical history and antiquities‡. That which we last noticed, is the second part of the second volume: and much is yet to follow. Of *Mr. Pennant's* Outlines of the Globe, the only specimen which he lived to publish is his *View of Hindoostan*§. If we are not deceived by report, very ample materials for a continuation of that curious work remain among his manuscript stores. From volumes of this extent, to *Mr. Feltham's* account of the *Isle of Man*||, the transition is sudden; yet the customs and peculiarities of people so nearly connected with us ought not to be neglected, and the disproportion between Hindoostan and the Island here described, is much greater than between the two quartos and this octavo. We were about to place under the head of Travels *Mr. Eton's* very instructive and entertaining work on *the Turkish Empire*; but, since he styles it a *Survey*¶, and divides it into chapters relative to the subject described, and not to any account of his own progress through the country, it appears that it ought to be classed with the work on Hindoostan and other descriptive volumes.

TRAVELS.

Having deducted the foregoing work from this division of our Preface, we have reduced it to a narrow

* No. I. p. 17. † The late volume of the Society of Antiquaries will be reviewed in our next number. ‡ P. n. II. p. 93.
§ No. II. p. 141. III. p. 269. || No. VI. p. 686. ¶ No. V. p. 492.

compass. *Miss Williams's Tour in Switzerland** stands at the head of those articles which remain; and it must be a class of no great eminence in which that can take the lead. *Dumourier's Account of Portugal*† is chiefly curious as proceeding from him, whose liveliness animates whatever he describes, and whose character must always excite some attention. Among the journals kept in the English Embassy to China, there probably were not many that were more correct than that of *Serjeant Holmes*‡. The observations of a plain but sensible man, on a state of society so different from any he had seen before, may be preferable in many points to the recital of persons who had already formed their opinions on the subject; and whose judgment might occasionally be influenced by their prepossessions. At all events, to encourage such diligence is a laudable act of benevolence. *Dr. Mavor*, who before had employed himself on Voyages and Travels to foreign countries, has lately compiled a similar work from the *Tours*§ which have been published, as taken in Great Britain and Ireland. It forms a convenient and amusing collection.

PHILOSOPHY.

With the Transactions of the several Philosophical Societies of this country, we endeavour to keep pace as they appear; and to those of the *Royal Society of London* we have dedicated three articles in the course of the present volume||. The *Royal Society of Edinburgh* was noticed also in two articles¶, and the *Linneæan Society* in one**. *Flamsteed's Catalogue of Stars*†† was also issued by the Royal Society of London; and enriched by the improvements and remarks of *Dr. Herschel*, and his sister. The use of the Microscope was very admirably illustrated by the late *George Adams*, in his *Essays* on that subject‡‡; and the late editor, *Mr. Kanmacher*, has added much

* No. I. p. 24. † No. IV. p. 441. ‡ No. V. p. 556. § Ibid.
 || No. I. p. 8. III. p. 235. and IV. p. 357. ¶ No. IV.
 p. 333. V. p. 480. ** No. II. p. 125. †† No. VI. p. 613.
 ‡‡ No. I. p. 45.

useful knowledge in his edition lately published. A Journal of philosophical events has long been wanting in England, and the defect has been well supplied by that which *Mr. Nicholson** has published. The general topics of Physiology have been treated variously by *Mr. Saumarez*†, and *Mr. Yeats*‡. Both works deserve to be consulted by the philosophical student. *Count Rumford* continues his *Essays*§, and continues to deserve attention. The botanist, and the philosophical or practical gardener, will receive with the greatest satisfaction *Mr. Martyn's* improved edition of *Miller's Dictionary*||. Ponderous as it is, no friend to that branch of knowledge will wish to see it shrunk into a smaller compass. *Mr. Sole's* treatise on the *British Mints*¶, is a monographia of uncommon merit; and science is assuredly much advanced by such elaborate efforts employed on particular genera.

MATHEMATICS.

On this subject, strictly considered, we have only to mention one book, *Mr. Wood's Principles of Mathematics*** , the beginning of a much more extensive work. *Mr. Smeaton's Reports*†† are of so mixed a nature, that it is difficult to class, though it would be unpardonable to omit them. A practical application of mathematical science to every branch of civil engineering, distinguishes the productions of that great and unrivalled genius.

MEDICINE.

It is not easy for the physicians of any country to win the palm of diligence from those of Great Britain. Our press continually teems with productions which prove how vigilant they are in tracing nature through every morbid system, and every indication of remedy. The subject of *Fever*, that difficult and various enquiry, has been pursued by *Dr. G. Fordyce*‡‡, in a

* No. II. p. 116.

† No. II. p. 160.

‡ No. IV. p. 345.

§ No. VI. p. 670.

|| No. VI. p. 573.

¶ No. III. p. 259.

** No. V. p. 461.

†† No. V. p. 476.

‡‡ No. VI. p. 594.

third

third Dissertation. Dr. Ferriar has displayed his well-known talents and acuteness in his *Medical Histories and Reflections*, which have now reached a third volume*. The subject of *Mental Derangement* has deeply employed the attention and talents of Dr. Crichton†, who has both weighed the opinions of others, and judged acutely for himself. A discovery almost new to medical science was announced to the public by Dr. Jenner, in his *Inquiry*‡ concerning the *Variolæ Vaccinæ*, or *Cow-pox*. It does not yet appear that his opinions on the subject will be all confirmed; yet does he deserve much praise for the manner in which he brought it forward to the world. Dr. Jackson's cautions respecting the *State of Pregnancy*§ will be found a useful and practical treatise. But Mr. Bell's *System of Dissections*, of which two parts have now appeared||, promises to be a work of much scientific use to the student in the art of healing; and to the surgeon. As a foreign work of great eminence proper to be rendered current here, we hail with pleasure the translation of *Chopart and Desault's* treatise¶; nor do the very unnecessary and idle observations of the translator on the subject of his undertaking, prevent us from wishing to see that work completed.

POETRY.

From a long list of articles bearing the form of Poetry, we shall select only a few for mention in this place. The first, in point of magnitude, and not destitute of other claims to notice, is the posthumous volume of Mr. Monck Berkeley**; accompanied by the copious and very affectionate effusions of a mother, who feels nothing inconsiderable that relates to her beloved son. Two volumes from Mr. Polwhele†† evinced his diligence in correcting and improving his former publications, and obtained a just tribute of

* No. II. p. 120. † No. III. p. 276. ‡ No. III. p. 311.
§ No. V. p. 543. || No. I. p. 68. IV. p. 392. ¶ No. I.
p. 20. ** No. II. p. 155. †† No. III. p. 254.

applause,

applause. Besides these, there have been few poetical works of much extent, except the very elegant and spirited translation of Wieland's *Oberon*, which Mr. *Sotheby** has executed in such a manner as to maintain a very honourable competition with the original author. A volume of Poems, selected and translated from the works of the Persian poet *Achmed Ardebeili*, by a writer whose name is *Forst*†, should not, however, pass unmentioned among translations of merit. It forms a very pleasing addition to the collection which has latterly been drawn from Oriental sources. Mr *Cottle*'s translation of the *Edda*‡, must conclude this part of our enumeration. Among the smaller productions we must distinguish three in our first number; *Julia*§, the *Crisis*||, and the *Vision*¶. Of these, the first and the last seem to originate in circumstances diametrically opposite. *Julia* is professedly the concluding effort of a writer often favoured by the Muses; the *Vision* contains the promise of future excellence from a juvenile writer. The *Crisis* is an animated, patriotic, and highly poetical effusion from Mr. *Maurice*, whose genius retains all its vigour amidst the multifarious difficulties of antiquarian research. A poem published at Dublin, under the title of *Public Spirit*** , pursues a similar object, and gives currency to patriotic ideas by the aid of lyric measures. Two poems on *Malvern*, and its beautiful hills, by Mr. *Cottle*††, and Dr. *Booker*‡‡, contended almost at once for notice: both deserved it in some degree, though we thought the praise of genius belonged rather more to the former. Mr. *Bowles*'s *Coombe Ellen*§§ is well calculated to support the reputation he had previously acquired; and there is often as much difficulty in maintaining, as acquiring a poetical name. Dr. *Fitzgerald*'s *Poems*||| are only a republication of pieces which had long ago appeared.

* No. V. p. 513.

† No. V. p. 466.

‡ No. IV. p. 382.

§ No. I. p. 35.

|| No. I. p. 65.

¶ No. I. p. 70.

** No. VI. p. 654.

†† No. III. p. 303.

‡‡ No. VI. p. 665.

§§ No. V. p. 539.

||| Ibid.

DRAMATIC.

In this class we shall refer our readers only to three performances : two of which have appeared with success upon the stage, and the third was not intended by its author for that trial. These are, *Mr. Cumberland's False Impressions**; the *Lovers' Vows*, by *Mrs. Inchbald*†; and *Arminius*, by *Mr. Murphy*‡. The separate merits of these we shall not here again characterize, but refer our readers to the articles in which they are mentioned.

MISCELLANIES.

We must here distinguish in the first place the third volume of *Hogarth illustrated*, by *Mr. John Ireland*§; a work curious for containing much original writing by that painter of nature himself; and valuable also for the judicious remarks of the editor on some of his performances. Among works connected with criticism, we must mention *Mr. Monck Mason's* volume on *Beaumont and Fletcher*||, and *Mr. Plumptre's* Observations on the Play of Hamlet¶. Among works of general utility *Mr. Malham's Naval Gazetteer*** , and *Mr. Cary's New Itinerary*†† deserve particular notice: Of *Mr. Morrit's Vindication of Homer*‡‡, against *Mr. Bryant*, we shall not here make any extended observation, reserving our general remarks to the time when our critique upon it shall have been concluded. But having thus been led to the mention of a work connected with classical literature, we will take this opportunity to mention *Mr. Porson's* edition of the *Orestes of Euripides*§§, the second play published by that very correct and acute scholar, in pursuance of a plan of going through all the remaining plays of that author. By way of praise, it is abundantly sufficient to repeat that the editor is Porson.

Having thus run through our usual recapitulation, we shall briefly conclude with our general tribute of praise to our countrymen for their literary efforts, and our wish that they may never be relaxed.

* No. H. p. 138. † No. VI. p. 598. ‡ No. IV. p. 415.
 § No. IV. 348. V. p. 508. || No. IV. p. 408. ¶ No. II. p. 194.
 ** No. V. p. 554. †† No. II. p. 198. ‡‡ No. VI. p. 632.
 §§ No. IV. p. 386.

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THE
BRITISH CRITIC,

For JULY, 1798.

Publica lex hominum, naturaque continet hæc fas
Ut teneat vetitos incertis debilis actus. PERSIUS.

The public voice, and nature, hold it true,
That what men cannot know, they should not do.

ART. I. *Sepulchral Monuments in Great Britain, applied to illustrate the History of Families, Habits, and Arts, at the different Periods, from the Norman Conquest to the Seventeenth Century; with Introductory Observations. Part II. Containing the Fifteenth Century. Folio. 9l. 9s. Robinsons. 1796.*

THE first volume of this truly magnificent work was published long before the commencement of our literary labours; yet we may remark upon the two collectively, that only the most indefatigable perseverance, and an ardour not to be restrained by a view of pecuniary difficulty, would either have conceived, or have pursued so vast an undertaking. Mr. Gough was in all respects pre-eminently qualified for such a labour; and is entitled, without reserve, to the thanks of all those who are at all anxious or curious about such objects of research as it is within the scope of the "Sepulchral Monuments" to illustrate. As there appears to be no regular system, beyond chronological arrangement, in the volume immediately before us, little is required of us but to select some of the more

B

im.

BRIT. CRIT. VOL. XII. JULY, 1798.

interesting particulars for the embellishment of our own work, and for the satisfaction of our readers; though these objects can be attained but imperfectly, as the great importance of Mr. Gough's labours consists in the numerous and well-executed engravings which present themselves almost in every page.

The fifteenth century, and in particular that portion of it in which our Fourth Henry reigned, was the period at which Gothic architecture flourished in its highest perfection. With a similar remark, and with a description of Chaucer's monument, Mr. G. thus commences his second volume.

"At the head of the Monuments of the Fifteenth Century I should place that of the father of English Poetry GEOFFREY CHAUCER, in the chapel of St. Blase, in the North transept of *Westminster Abbey*, since called the Poets' Corner, from the series of English poets buried there; but that it was the work of the next age, erected 1556, by Mr. Nicholas Brigham, of Caversham, in Oxfordshire, student in law at Hart-hall, Oxford, who died at Westminster three years after. The portrait of Chaucer, drawn, or rather painted, on a blank, on the north side of this monument, was copied from that of the epitaph by his scholar Occleve, in a MS of the King's Library, 17 D. v. 1. now in the British Museum; and from this drawing John Speed, in 1598, procured the print of him prefixed to Speght's edition of his works, which has been since copied in a most finished engraving by Mr. Vertue for Urry's edition, 1721, fol. and in his own set of heads of the English Poets. The same drawing occurs in a Harleian MS. 4866. fol. 91. written about Occleve's age, and in a Cottonian MS. Otho. A. xviii. Occleve himself mentions this drawing in his "*Consolatio servilis*." It exactly resembles the curious picture of him on board, in the Bodleian Library. Mr. Warton has another on board, much like this, formerly kept in an old quadrangular stone house at Woodstock, whose last remains, chiefly consisting of what was called Chaucer's Bedchamber with an old carved oaken roof, were demolished about 25 years ago.

"The original and real broad slab of grey marble which lay over this poet's grave was, Mr. Dart thinks, taken up and sawn to mend the pavement when Mr. Dryden's monument was set up. On a corner pillar of St. Benet's chapel hung a leaden plate with his epitaph composed by Surigonus, a poet of Milan. Round the verge of the tomb were these verses:

*Si rogitas quis eram forsitan te fama docebit;
Quod si fama neget mundi quia gloria transit
Hec monumenta legat.*

"On the inside of the tomb were his arms, Per pale A. and G. bend counterchanged, now gone; but painted over it under the arch of the church-wall.

"The inscription put up by Brigham runs thus:

M. S.

*Qui fuit Anglorum vates ter maximus olim,
Galfrius Chaucer, conditus hoc tumulo.*

Annum

*Annum, si quæras Domini, si tempora mortis,
Ecce nota subjacet quæ tibi cuncta notant.*
25 Octobris 1400.

*Aerumnarum requies mori.
N. Brigham hoc fecit musarum nomine sumptus.*

1556.

"A good print of this monument may be seen in Dart. The style shews it to be about the age assigned it: an altar tomb adorned at the side and end with shields of Chaucer's arms in quatrefoils divided by little niches, somewhat like that of archbishop Bourchier at Canterbury, Bishop Beaumont at Salisbury, that on which the figure of Matilda lies at Dunmow, and many others of the time. The canopy is composed of four arches, parted by plain finials and supported at each end by louenged columns. It resembles that of Prior Weston in Clerkenwell church. The inscription is painted against the wall within, between the figure of Chaucer as before described at the head, and of another person (it may be Brigham) at the feet: but these figures are, no longer existing.

"Over this monument has just been erected a most unmeaning one of white marble to the memory of John Roberts, esq. "the very faithful secretary of the right honourable Henry Pelham secretary of state to king George II."

"The history of this poet has a great connection with that of the times. He was *valetum hospitii* to Edward III. who granted him an annuity of twenty marks as comptroller of the customs of wool in the port of London, envoy to Genoa by the title of *Scutifer noster*, and to France in the last year of that king's life, to treat of a marriage between Richard II. then prince of Wales, and the daughter of the French king. Richard II. confirmed his grandfather's grants, which he allowed him a right to surrender in favour of another person. 13 Richard II. he appears to have been clerk of the works at Westminster, and in the following year at Windsor. In the course of the first of these offices he probably hired that tenement in a garden adjoining to St. Mary's chapel at Westminster, of Robert Hermodeshworth, chaplain, for fifty-three years, determinable on Chaucer's death, which happened the year after the date of the said lease, 1399. the said tenant not to let the said tenement, or any part thereof, during that term, nor to lodge in it any invader of the church's privileges, without leave of the said chaplain and sacrist of the church. As he paid particular court to John of Gaunt duke of Lancaster, so he was involved in his disgraces; and for the riot in London, 7 Richard II. was forced to fly; and probably lost his lucrative place of comptroller abovementioned. His wife, before her marriage, had been one of the maids of honour, or *domicelle*, to queen Philippa. "Chaucer," says Mr. Warton, "was a man of the world, conversant with the practices and diversions of polite life. Familiarity with a variety of things and objects, opportunities of acquiring the fashionable and courtly modes of speech, connections with the great at home, and a personal acquaintance with the vernacular poets of foreign countries, opened his mind, and furnished him with new lights." Dr. Johnson pronounces him the first English versifier who wrote poetically." P. 1.

4 *Mr. Gough's Sepulchral Monuments. Vol. II.*

The author's motto to this volume is very pertinent, and exempts us from the necessity of any detached remark, or regular arrangement. It is this :

There are but sixteen hundred Mercenaries,
The rest are Princes, Barons, Lords, Knights, Squires,
And Gentlemen of blood and quality. SHAKESP.

We shall only therefore observe, that the description of every monument is accompanied by illustrative anecdotes, historical allusions, various quotations, circumstantial references, and critical annotations ; in all of which, the mind and attainments of the author seem to be in a manner inexhaustible.

The following is the account of William of Wykeham, and is sufficiently curious for insertion.

" The brightest name in the list of our architects is that " artist and patron of art WILLIAM OF WYKEHAM, a prelate whose magnificent charities yet exist, both in the benefits he calculated for posterity, and in the edifices erected on his own designs, for perpetuating those pious bounties ; who, from being clerk to the works, rose to be bishop of Winchester and lord chancellor, and prime minister to Edward III.—a height which few men have reached by mere merit in any mechanic science. Wykeham had the sole direction of the buildings at Windsor and Queenborough castle : not to mention his own foundations. He rose by pleasing one of the greatest princes, and deserved his fortune by bestowing it in noble charities."

" His buildings at Queenborough are levelled with the ground. The principal gate of his castle at Windsor happily withstood an injudicious levelling, and the castle itself looks down with disdain on the modern erections that occupy its ditch. His cathedral remains unblemished by modern taste, and his literary foundations flourish in unimpaired splendor. His architect at Winchester was William Winford, whose name should be added to the list of our ancient builders, though he were only the master mason, or *Cementarius*. As he was thought equal to the execution of a church, it is probable that the execution of the bishop's sepulchral chapel was also committed to him.

" This is called in his will a *new* building. Though the other ornaments of his oratory are destroyed, yet his monument remains there intire and unhurt to this day. It is of white marble, of very elegant workmanship, *considering the time*, with his effigies in his pontifical robes lying along upon it ; and on a plate of brass running round the edge of the upper table of it, is the following inscription in Latin verse of the style of that age :

Willelmus dictus Wykeham jacet hic nec dictus.
Istius ecclesie parvulus, reparabit eamque,
Largus erat, dapifer : probat hoc cum dabit pauper.
Consiliis pariter regni fuerat bene dexter.
Hunc docet esse pium fundatio collegiorum :
Oroniat primum stat, Wintoniaque secundum,
Ingreditur ortus tumulum quicumque videtis,
Pro tantis meritis ut sit ubi vita petenda.

"The small prints of this chapel and monument, from a drawing of Isaac Taylor the surveyor, prefixed to bishop Lowth's life of this great prelate, have done it as much justice as the scale permitted. I wish I could say as much of the larger print of the monument and figure by Sherwin. His crozier preserved in the chapel of New College, and well engraved by Mr. Carter in his XIIth Number, is a fine specimen of the elegant arts among us, and an instance, as Mr. Walpole observes, "how well the pomp of prelacy was served by ingenious artists."

"Sepulchral chapels came more in fashion in this century, by which I mean those which were erected professedly for the interment of the founder, and in which his own body was actually buried. For in the preceding centuries, the many chapels that sided the nave and choir both of our principal and parochial churches were receptacles of the dead, and in many instances appropriated to lords of manors and their families, whether those lords were their founders or not. It was also no uncommon thing to build chapels for the purpose of saying mass for the souls of the founders thereof, whose bodies were deposited at some distance from them: as that of the Black Prince in the undercroft, and of Henry IV. in the North wall of the choir at Canterbury. The chapels that incircle the choir at Tewkesbury have a uniformity which bespeak most of them to be the work of one abbot in the preceding century. But the instances of chapels erected for the express purpose of depositing a particular patron or family abound in the present and succeeding century, inasmuch that the name of the saints to whom the chapel was dedicated has been absorbed in that of the bishop or lord who erected it.

"The situation of Wykeham's chapel seems not at all well chosen if we consider it with respect to the whole building; in which it has no good effect, but creates an irregularity and an embarrassment, which it had been better to have avoided. But Wykeham was determined to the choice of this particular place by a consideration of a very different kind; by an early prejudice to a strong religious impression which had been stamped on his mind in his childhood. In this part of the old church there had been an altar dedicated to the Blessed Virgin, with her image standing above it; at this altar a mass used to be celebrated every morning, which seems to have been a favourite one, and much frequented at the time when Wykeham was a boy and at school at Winchester, for it had gotten a particular name among the people, and was called *Pekismasse*, from the name of a monk of the convent who usually officiated in it. Young Wykeham was constant and early in his daily attendance, and fervent in his devotions at the mass. He seems even then to have chosen the Blessed Virgin as his peculiar patroness, to have placed himself under her protection, and in a manner to have dedicated himself to her service; and probably he might ever after imagine himself indebted to her especial favour for the various successes which he was blest with through his life. This seems to have been the reason of his dedicating to her his two colleges, and calling them by her name: over all the principal gates of which he has been careful to have himself represented as her votary in the act of adoration to her as his and their common guardian. And this it
was

was that determined the situation of his chantry. He erected his chapel in the very place where he used to perform his devotions in his younger days; between the two pillars, against one of which stood the altar abovementioned. He dedicated the chapel to the Blessed Virgin; the altar was continued in the same place, as before, and probably the very same image was erected above it, which, with the other ornaments of the same kind, both within the chapel and without, was destroyed in the last century by the zeal of modern enthusiasm exerting itself with a blind and indiscriminate rage against all the venerable and beautiful monuments either of antient piety or superstition."

"The respect paid to this sepulchral chapel by Cromwell's express care when his soldiers committed so much havock in this church reflects honour on his memory. Nor is less attention paid to it by those students to whom Wykeham was so liberal a benefactor." P. 13.

The author adds a severe reflection against the contrary conduct in another sacred edifice, which we hope is not justly attributable to the causes he assigns. The reader will easily perceive how abundant our choice must be from materials so rich, and a work so extensive. We select but one extract more.

"At *Braxburn*, c. Herts, under a very small figure of a monk kneeling in a pew by the last North East pillar:

*Hic subterraneus jacet D^{ns} Petrus Herborn nup^r
de Hobisson' Capellan' qui obiit primo die mens
Decembris A^o Dⁿⁱ M^{CC}CD^{XX}IIII.
cujus aie proprietur deus. Amen.*

"On a label from his mouth:

misere mei Deus.

"Bishop BEKINTON, who died 1465, lies in the South aisle of the presbytery at *Wells*, in an elegant chapel built by his executor Sugar, in honour of the Virgin Mary and St. Thomas the Martyr. His figure, pontifically habited, lies on the tomb built and dedicated by himself, in the same episcopal robes in which he appointed to be buried, and under it a skeleton in stone. His three executors, Swan, Sugar, and Pope, lie by him, under three similar stones.

"Thomas Bekinton was the son of a manufacturer at Bekinton, Somersetshire, educated at Winchester, chosen fellow of New College, Oxford, 1408; and chancellor of that university; master of St. Catharine's Hospital by the Tower, rector of St. Leonard's near Hastings, 1419; prebendary of Bedwin, of York, 1423, 1424; of Salisbury, Wells, and St. Paul's, archdeacon of Bucks, 1430; rector of Setton Courtney, Berks, 1432. and owed his preferment to his hook on the right of our kings to the crown of France, for which Henry VI. made him his principal secretary, 1442, keeper of the privy seal, and sent him on a embassy to France 1432, 1441, and 1442, to treat concerning his marriage; and 1443 nominated him bishop of Bath and Wells, to which he was consecrated in the chapel of Eton College, then first erected, in which he had celebrated the first mass. In order the

Mr. Gough's Copy of the

the better to attend to his episcopal
gave to his bishoprick. The same year
bishop of Tyne, we find that he
discovers itself rich in the possession
a row of houses, till called the
place to the outer gate of
his chapter. In the middle
His arms, a flaming banner
the cloister shew that it
to be seen at Lincoln
larged, being left unfinished
ming, bishop of Lincoln,
face at Wells. He built the
priory, and the bishop's

“ In the apprehension of a
 involve him in a forfeiture
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 will, and of all his beque
 of his church of Wells : f
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 of Bath, to New College, and
 Hospital, London, and
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8 *Philosophical Transactions for 1797. Part II.*

period when a gloomy cloud overspreads the literary hemisphere, a scholar and a gentleman should be found whom no dangers or difficulties intimidate; who, occupied in ingenuous pursuits, and satisfied with the approbation of the wise and good, passes the useful remainder of his life in ease, independence, and dignity.

hæc etenim sunt
Pro summis, nam sunt hæc maxima,

ART. II. *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London, for 1797. Part II.*

(Concluded from our last, p. 596.)

THE remaining part of this publication is by no means deficient in articles which deserve the attention of the public.

XVI. *Farther Experiments and Observations on the Affections and Properties of Light.* By Henry Brougham, Jun. Esq.

The paper now to be considered contains the continuation of some other experiments, an account of which was published in a former volume of the *Philosophical Transactions*. The length of the discussion, and the nature of the experiments, which does not admit of their being intelligibly abridged, especially without the assistance of the plate which accompanies the paper, render it hardly practicable to present our readers with more than the propositions, which the author has ultimately deduced from his experiments.

The experiments were principally made by letting the sun's light pass through a hole into a darkened room; by refracting this light through a prism, and by inserting several opaque bodies between the refracted light, and the screen upon which the spectrum fell. Some experiments were likewise made with speculums, as also some with pieces of Iceland crystal.

The author concludes with the following propositions.

"P. I. The sun's light consists of parts which differ in degree of refrangity, reflexivity, inflexity, and deflexity; and the rays which are most flexible have also the greatest refrangity, reflexivity, and flexity; or are most *refrangile, reflexile, and flexile.*"

P. II. Rays of compound light passing through the spheres of flexion, and falling on the bending body, are not separated by their flexibility, either in their approach to, or return from, the body.

P. III. The colours of thin and those of thick plates are precisely of the same nature; differing only in the thickness of the plate which forms them.

P. IV,

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P. IV. The colours of plates are caused by flexion, and may be produced without any transmutation whatever.

P. V. All the consequences deducible from the theory *a priori* are found to follow in fact.

P. VI. The common fringes by flexion (called hitherto the *three fringes*) are found to be as numerous as the others.

P. VII. The unusual image by Iceland crystal is caused by some power inherent in its particles, different from refraction, reflexion, and flexion.

P. VIII. This power resembles refraction in its degree of action on different rays; but it resembles flexion within the body, in not taking place at a distance from it, in acting as well on perpendicular as on oblique rays, and in its sphere or space of exertion moving with the particles which it attends."

XVII. *On Gouty and Urinary Concretions.* By William Hyde Wollaston, M. D. F. R. S.

In this paper the author gives an account of his analysis of gouty concretions, and likewise of four new urinary calculi.—Respecting the gouty concretions, he finds reason to assert that they are a neutral compound, consisting of lithic acid and mineral alkali, or it may be called *lithiated soda*; and he rests his assertion on the following facts.

" 1. If a small quantity of diluted vitriolic acid be poured upon the chalk-stone, part of the alkali is extracted, and crystals of Glauber's salt may be obtained from the solution. Common salt may still more easily be procured by marine acid. The addition of more acid will extract the whole of the alkali, leaving a large proportion of the chalk-stone undissolved; which exhibits the following characteristic properties of lithic acid.

" By distillation it yields a little volatile alkali, Prussic acid, and an acid sublimate, having the same crystalline form as the sublimate observed by Scheele.

" Dissolved in a small quantity of diluted nitrous acid it tinges the skin with rose colour, and when evaporated, leaves a rose-coloured deliquescent residuum.

" It dissolves readily in caustic vegetable alkali, and may be precipitated from it by an acid, and also by mild volatile alkali; first as a jelly, and then breaking down into a white powder.

" 2. In distillation of the chalk-stone the lithic acid is decomposed, and yields the usual products of animal substances, viz. a fetid alkaline liquor, volatile alkali, and a heavy fetid oil, leaving a spongy coal; which when burnt in open air, fuses into a white salt, that does not deliquesce, but dissolves entirely in water, is alkaline, and when saturated with nitrous acid gives rhomboidal crystals.—These characteristic properties prove it to be mineral alkali.

" 3. Caustic vegetable alkali poured upon the chalk-stone, and warmed dissolves the whole without emitting any smell of volatile alkali. From which it appears, that the volatile alkali obtained by distillation is a product arising from a new arrangement of elements, not so combined in the substance itself,

" 4. Water

" 4. Water aided by a boiling heat dissolves a very small proportion of the gouty concretion, and retains it when cold. The lithic acid thus dissolved in combination, with the alkali, is rather more than would be dissolved alone; so that by addition of marine acid it may be separated. While the solution continues warm no precipitate is formed; but as it cools, the lithic acid crystallizes on the sides of the vessel in the same manner as the crystals called red sand do, when an acid is added to recent urine.

" The gouty concrete may be easily formed by uniting the ingredients of which I have found it to consist.

" 5. If a fragment of lithic acid be triturated with some mineral alkali and a little warm water, they unite, and after the superfluous alkali has been washed out, the remainder has every chemical property of gouty matter.

Dr. Wollaston is of opinion, that

" The knowledge of this compound may lead to a further trial of the alkalies which have been observed by Dr. Cullen to be apparently efficacious in preventing the returns of this disease; and may induce us, when correcting the acidity to which gouty persons are frequently subject, to employ the fixed alkalies, which are either of them capable of dissolving gouty matter, in preference to the earths (termed absorbent) which can have no such beneficial effect."

The four species of calculi that are described in this paper, are denominated the *fusible calculus*, the *mulberry calculus*, the *bone-earth calculus*, and a *calculus from the prostate gland*; the last of which, though not of the bladder, is however belonging to the urinary passages.

The fusible calculus is so called from its property of being mostly converted into an opaque white glass, when urged by the heat of a blow-pipe. Concretions of this sort have a white appearance, formed in great measure of sparkling crystals, which, as appears from Dr. Wollaston's experiments,

" Consist of phosphoric acid, magnesia, and volatile alkali: the stone contains also phosphorated lime, and generally some lithic acid.

" The form of the crystals is a short triangular prism, having one angle a right angle, and the other two equal, terminated by a pyramid of three or six sides."

With respect to the mulberry calculus, this author says:

" Though the name has been confined to such stones as, from their irregularly knotted surface and dark colour, bear a distant resemblance to that fruit, I find the species, chemically considered, to be more extensive, comprehending also some of the smoothest stones we meet with; of which one in my possession is of a much lighter colour, so as to resemble in hue, as well as smoothness, the surface of a hemp-seed. From this circumstance it appears not improbable, that the darkness of irregular stones may have arisen from blood voided in consequence of their roughness.

" The

"The smooth calculus I find to consist of lime united with the acids of sugar and of phosphorus. The rougher specimens have generally some lithic acid in their interstices."

The bone-earth calculus consists entirely of phosphorated lime. It has a smooth surface of a pale brown colour, but it is internally formed of laminæ, that have a slight adherence to each other.

The last species of calculi, namely, those which are sometimes found in the prostate gland, are very small, hardly ever amounting to the size of pearl barley. The specimen which Dr. W. had the opportunity of examining, consisted of phosphorated lime in the state of neutralization, tinged with the secretion of the prostate gland.

XVIII. Experiments on carbonated hydrogenous Gas, with a View to determine whether Carbon be a simple or a compound Substance. By Mr. William Henry.

The author of this paper finding reason to be dissatisfied with the inferences respecting the composition of charcoal, which were deduced from Dr. Austin's experiments on the heavy inflammable air, endeavoured to examine the subject with particular attention.

Dr. Austin found that by passing the electric shock repeatedly through a small quantity of hydrocarbonate, that gas was increased to more than twice its original volume. The gas thus dilated was found to require a greater quantity of oxygen for its combustion than before the electrization: hence it appeared that by the action of the electric shocks more inflammable gas had been evolved from some of the substances concerned in the experiment, and those substances could only be the carbon and the water, which are known to be suspended in hydrocarbonic gas.

Now the author of this paper, thinking that Dr. Austin's experiments were not sufficiently accurate for the purpose, endeavoured in the first place to ascertain whether the carbonatic hydrogenous gas suffers any diminution of its quantity of carbon by the process of electrization; for should the result prove the affirmative, a strong presumption would thence be derived, that the additional inflammable gas was derived from the carbon; otherwise it must be attributed to something else. With this view, Mr. Henry fired successively in close vessels a known quantity of the carbonatic hydrogen, both before and after its having been dilated by the electric shocks, always mixing it with the just proportion of oxygenous air. He then separated the carbonic acid from the residuum after the explosion, by means of lime water,

water, and found that the quantity of carbonic acid was always the same.

"As much carbonic acid," says he, "was obtained by the combustion of 408 measures of carbonated hydrogenous gas, expanded from 200, as from 200 measures of the non-electric fired gas: and the residues of azotic gas were the same in both cases.

"It is unnecessary to state the particulars of several other experiments, similar to those above related, which were attended with the same results. They sufficiently prove that the action of the electric spark, when passed through carbonated hydrogenous gas, is not exerted in the decomposition of carbon; for the same quantity of this substance is found after as before electrization."

The result of those experiments naturally induced a suspicion, that the origin of the additional inflammable gas was from the water, especially as this supposition was corroborated by two considerations; first, because carbon is known to assist the decomposition of water; and secondly, because the dilatation of hydrocarbonate, by means of electricity, cannot be carried beyond a certain point; which seems to imply, that the dilatation ceases in consequence of the entire destruction of the quantity of water suspended in the gas.

This suspicion was fully verified by Mr. Henry's plain and judicious experiments. For, after having exposed a certain quantity of hydrocarbonate to dry caustic alkali for several days, in order to deprive it in great measure of its water, he found that the dilatation of this dried gas, by means of electricity, could not be carried beyond one sixth of the original bulk. He also found that when water was admitted to this gas, the dilatation would then proceed with remarkable rapidity.

Mr. H. concludes his paper with the following summary of the facts established by his, and Dr. Austin's experiments.

"1. Carbonated hydrogenous gas, in its ordinary state, is permanently dilated by the electric shock to more than twice its original volume; and as light inflammable air is the only substance we are acquainted with, that is capable of occasioning so great an expansion, and of exhibiting the phenomena that appear on firing the electrified gas with oxygen, we may ascribe the dilatation to the production of hydrogenous gas.

"2. The hydrogenous gas evolved by this process does not arise from the decomposition of charcoal; because the same quantity of that substance is contained in the gas after, as before electrization.

"3. The hydrogenous gas proceeds from decomposed water; because when this fluid is abstracted as far as possible from the carbonated hydrogenous gas, before submitting it to the action of electricity, the dilatation cannot be extended beyond one-sixth of its usual amount.

"4. The

" 4. The decomponent of the water is not a metallic substance, because carbonated hydrogenous gas is expanded when in contact only with a glass tube and gold, a metal which has no power of separating water into its formative principles.

" 5. The oxygen of the water (when the electric fluid is passed through carbonated hydrogenous gas, that holds this substance in solution) combines with the carbon, and forms carbonic acid. This production of carbonic acid, therefore, adds to the dilatation occasioned by the evolution of hydrogenous gas.

" 6. There is not, by the action of the electric matter on carbonated hydrogenous gas, any generation of azotic gas.

" 7. Carbon, it appears, from the united evidence of these facts, is still to be considered as an elementary body; that is, as a body with the composition of which we are unacquainted, but which may nevertheless yield to the labours of some future and more successful analyst."

XIX. Observations and Experiments on the Colour of Blood.
By William Charles Wells, M. D. F. R. S.

The object of the present paper is to show, " that the alteration induced upon the colour of blood, both by common air and the neutral salts, is altogether independent of any change effected by them upon its colouring matter."

Dr. Wells having obtained by means of washing in distilled water, &c. a transparent solution of the red part of blood, free from serum and coagulable lymph, divided it into several portions. He then exposed one of those portions to the air, left a second in a closed vessel, added a solution of nitre to a third, &c. but on examining them under similar circumstances, he found that they all appeared of precisely the same colour. He also cut some dark crassamentum into thin slices, some of which he exposed to the air until they became florid, while others which were not so exposed, remained dark; he then infused the former and the latter in distilled water and separate vessels, and on examination found their colour to be precisely the same.

" Assuming therefore," says he, " as proved, that neither common air, nor the neutral salts (for all those I have tried are similar to nitre in this respect) change the colour of the red matter of blood; I shall now attempt to explain the manner in which those substances give, notwithstanding, to black blood a florid appearance; premising, however, some observations upon the colours of bodies in general."

This author then gives a short account of the opinions of Kepler, Zucchi, Newton, and Delaval, relative to the reflection of light from opaque bodies, after which he endeavours to explain the phenomena of the colour of blood; upon the theory principally elucidated by Mr. Delaval, which is, " that
the

the colours of opaque bodies do not arise from the rays of light which they reflect from their anterior surfaces; but from that portion of it, which, having penetrated their anterior surfaces, is reflected by the opaque particles which are diffused through their substance."

Dr. W. in the first place supposes that all the parts of blood have the same reflective power; then, says he,

"The consequence will be that a mass sufficiently thick to suffocate the whole of the light which enters it, before it can proceed to the posterior surface, and be thence returned through the first surface, must appear black; for the rays which are reflected from the first surface are without colour, and, by hypothesis, none can be reflected from its internal parts. In the next place, let there be dispersed through this black mass a small number of particles, differing from it in reflective power, and it will immediately appear slightly coloured; for some of the rays, which have penetrated its surface, will be reflected by those particles, and will come to the eye obscurely tinged with the colour, which is exhibited by a thin layer of blood, when placed between us and the light. Increase now by degrees the number of those particles, and in the same proportion as they are multiplied, must the colour of the mass become both stronger and brighter."

Dr. W. proceeds to show next, that both common air and the neutral salts increase the reflection of light from the internal parts of blood at the same time that they brighten it. One proof of which is, that the minute particles of the crassamentum of the blood, that had been reddened by common air or the neutral salts, could be much more distinctly seen, than those of the crassamentum that had not been so reddened. He also poured on a printed card as much serum rendered turbid by red particles, as would just allow the reading of the words on the card; he then dropped a little solution of nitre upon the serum, and found that this addition rendered the mixture so opaque, as to make the letters illegible. From which, besides other facts of less note that are mentioned in the paper, it seems evident, that the red matter appears brighter in consequence of its being seen by a greater quantity of light, whenever the reflective power of the mass is increased by the action of air, or of neutral salts.

This ingenious author offers likewise a few observations on the cause of the red colour of blood. He disproves the pretty common opinion of its being derived from iron, 1st, because no colour arising from a metal can be permanently destroyed by so low a degree of heat, as that which is required for destroying the colour of blood; 2ndly, because if the colour derived from a metal be destroyed by an alkali, it may be generally restored by an acid, which is not the case with blood; and

zelly, that the supposed saline existence of iron in blood cannot be discovered by the usual tests of Prussian alkali, or an infusion of galls; hence he is of opinion, "that blood derives its colour from the peculiar organization of the animal matter of one of its parts; for whenever this is destroyed, the colour disappears, and can never be made to return."

This paper ends with some miscellaneous facts respecting the colour of blood.

XX. *An Account of the Trigonometrical Survey, carried on in the years 1795 and 1796, by Order of the Marquis Cornwallis, Master-General of the Ordnance.* By Colonel Edward Williams, Captain William Mudge, and Mr. Isaac Dalby.

Of this long and valuable paper, we can do very little more than give the titles of its sections; and indeed the accounts which have been given of similar surveys made on the same plan, and published in the preceding volumes of the *Philosophical Transactions*, exempt us from the duty of describing the instruments or the general manner of conducting the operations.

A general idea of its contents cannot be conveyed better than by transcribing *the preamble* to the paper itself, which is as follows:

"According to the resolution expressed in the account of the trigonometrical survey, printed in the *Philosophical Transactions*, for the year 1795, we now communicate to the public, through the same channel, a farther relation of its progress.

"On referring to the above paper, it will be found that, for the prosecution of this undertaking, a design was formed of proceeding to the westward, with a series of triangles, for the survey of the coast. This intention has been carried into effect; and as the small theodolite, or circular instrument, announced in our former communication as then in the hands of Mr. Ramsden, was finished early in the summer of 1795, we are enabled to give a series of triangles, extending, in conjunction with those before given, from the Isle of Thanet, in Kent, to the Land's End.

"In the composition of the following account, we have adhered to the plan adopted in the last, of giving the angles of the great triangles, with their variations; and we have, with as much brevity as possible, inserted a narrative of each year's operations. This will be found, however, to extend only to the first part, or that containing the particulars of the survey in which the great instrument alone was used. The remaining contents of this portion of the work, are necessarily confined to the angles of the principal, and secondary triangles, with the calculations of their sides, in feet; and likewise such data as have no connection with the computations of latitudes and longitudes.

"Part

"Part the second contains an account of a survey carried on in Kent, in the years 1795 and 1796, with the small instrument, by order of the Master-General, for completing a map of the eastern and southern parts of that county, for the use of the Board of Ordnance, and the military commanders on the coast."

The first part is divided into four sections, the first of which contains six articles, namely; I. Of particulars relating to the operations of the year 1795. II. Angles taken in the year 1795. III. Of particulars relating to the operations of the year 1796. IV. Angles taken in the year 1796. V. Situation of the stations. And VI. Demonstration of Mr. de Lambre's formulæ in the *Connoissance des Temps* of 1793, for reducing a distance on the sphere to any great circle near it, or the contrary. By Nevil Maskelyne, D. D. F. R. S. and Astronomer Royal.

The second section contains calculations of the sides of the great triangles, carried on from the termination of the series published in the *Philosophical Transactions* of 1795, along the coasts of Dorsetshire, Devonshire, and Cornwall, to the Land's End.

The third section is subdivided into four articles, which upon the whole contain the heights of the stations, and the terrestrial refractions at the different places of observation; together with the elevations and depressions of those places.

The fourth section is subdivided into five articles, and contains the secondary triangles, in which two angles only have been observed.

The second part is divided into three sections; the first of which is entitled, account of a trigonometrical survey carried on in Kent, in the years 1795 and 1796, with the small circular instrument, and is divided into six articles; I. Particulars respecting the instrument. II. Situations of the stations on which observations were made with the small circular instrument, in the summer of the year 1795. III. Triangles for determining the distances of the stations. IV. Secondary triangles. V. Triangles carried over another part of Kent, in 1795, with remarks. And VI. Secondary triangles.

The second section describes the operations performed in 1796, with the small circular instrument; and is subdivided into three articles, I. Situations of the stations. II. Triangles for finding the distances of the stations. And III. Secondary triangles.

The third section contains the distances of the objects intersected in the survey with the small circular instrument, from the

the meridian of Greenwich, and from the perpendicular to that meridian : also their latitudes and longitudes.

The three articles into which this last section is divided, are entitled, I. Bearings and Distances, 1795. II. Bearings and Distances of the Stations, and interior Objects, intersected in 1796. III. Latitudes and Longitudes of Objects intersected in 1795.

The results of the operations here described are exhibited in two most accurate plates, which accompany the paper; the first of which contains a delineation of that part of the south coast of this island, which lies between the western extremity of Cornwall, and the meridian of Barrow-Down in Dorsetshire, with the principal triangles of the survey. The second plate contains the part of the coast of Kent and Sussex, which lies between the meridian of Beachey-Head and the North Foreland, together with a delineation of the inland part; namely, of the roads, hills, &c. to a considerable extent. Also the triangles which were taken for the purpose of ascertaining the situations of those places.

This part of the volume of the Philosophical Transactions concludes with a list of the presents received by the Royal Society from November, 1796, to July, 1797: and an Index to the whole volume for 1797.

ART. III. *The Baronage of Scotland; containing an historical and genealogical Account of the Gentry of that Kingdom; collected from the public Records and Chartularies of the Country; the Records of private Families; and the Works of our best Historians. Illustrated with Engravings of the Coats of Arms. Vol. I. Folio. 1l. 11s. 6d. Bell and Bradfute; Edinburgh; Cadell and Davies, London. 1798.*

THE value of such a work as this will be differently estimated, according to the preconceived opinions of its different readers; while it will be entirely rejected as unworthy of perusal, by such as have filled their heads with the new and fantastical notions of the imprescriptible rights and equality of men. That mankind have in general the same powers of mind, and the same organs of body, though not all in the same degree of perfection, is doubtless as well known to the editors of the *Baronage of Scotland*, as to the most flaming partizan of the Jacobinical sect. But as long as men shall continue to employ their talents to very different purposes, inequalities of rank and of fortune must necessarily arise in every country,

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where merit is rewarded, and property protected; and the history of those families whose ancestors raised themselves, or were raised by their sovereigns, above the common level of their fellow citizens, tends, in no small degree, to stimulate honest industry, and to excite heroic exertion.

Nor is this the only useful tendency of such publications. In a country, which engrosses the greater part of the commerce of Europe, and among whose inhabitants luxury is very generally diffused, large fortunes are sometimes suddenly acquired; and though we do not implicitly receive what Dr. Johnson certainly did not literally mean, that "there is *always* a *scoundrelism* about a *new* man," yet we think it undeniable, that the sudden acquisition of riches is too often the parent of insolence; and of insolence the more intolerable, that it is generally displayed towards merit obscured by poverty. To repress this spirit in the petulant upstart, nothing contributes so much as the honour which is attached to an ancient pedigree. The Commissary, who has grown rich by the plunder of his country, and occupies perhaps the estate on which he was formerly steward, while he treats with contemptuous kindness the curate of the parish, or the village surgeon, shrinks back towards his original station, in the presence of him, whose family has been established for two hundred years. This may be called prejudice, but it is a salutary prejudice; and if it be true, that

Fate never wounds more deep the generous heart,
Than when a blockhead's insult points the dart,

no wife or good man would wish to eradicate from the breast a sentiment by which such darts are forcibly repelled.

But are not those, who inherit large estates from a long line of ancestors, as contemptuous and insolent to obscure merit, as those who have suddenly acquired their wealth by their own efforts or industry? Doubtless this sometimes happens; but it certainly is not a general case. The man who inherits an estate, has not the balance of his mind destroyed by unexpected prosperity; he is in possession of nothing but what he looked for from the years of his childhood; and if his education has been what it ought to have been, it must have strongly impressed upon his mind, the duty of maintaining the honour of an ancient house, by a conduct at once easy, dignified and generous. So true is it, as the editors of this work observe, that "the propriety of preserving the genealogies of families cannot be reasonably questioned."

"The genius, the virtues, and the achievements of eminent men, ought to be remembered; and even those, who, though not prominent in public affairs, or engaged in pursuits interesting to strangers, had in their private sphere, demeaned themselves with propriety, and supported the

the line of an ancient family with respectability, ought not to be forgotten. The line of a family may fail, but such a publication as the present will preserve it in the recollection of posterity."

It will be recollected, that in Scotland, there were two distinct classes of Barons, the *greater* and the *less*. The *greater* were the nobility, dignified with the title of Earls, &c. The *less* were the freeholders of landed estates, who, though their privileges and fortunes were not equal to those of the nobles, were entitled as well as they to sit and vote personally in the Scottish parliament; which, as most of our readers doubtless know, consisted of but one house or council. A commoner, or untitled Baron, sometimes even presided in that house, as speaker or chancellor.

In the work, of which the first volume is now before us, it is proposed to delineate the genealogies of the *smaller* Barons, or, in other words, of the Baronets and other freeholders of ancient descent; by tracing the line of their ancestry, enumerating their intermarriages, mentioning their employments, whether civil or military, and recording the public achievements which have been performed by the most eminent members of the different families. By much the greater part of this volume was long ago compiled and printed by Sir Robert Douglas, Baronet, who had, sometime before, published a copious account of the *greater* Barons or nobility of Scotland; but the completion of the work has been reserved for men, who seem more capable of doing it justice than Sir Robert Douglas.

Without calling in question the baronet's knowledge of the ancient history of his country, we may safely affirm, that he had either been very indolent, or possessed no talents for arrangement; for in his part of the volume he seems to have sent to the press, without method or order, the history of each family, just as the materials were furnished to his hand. Hence it is, that the accounts of the different families are so confusedly intermixed, that he who wishes to trace any one of them through its various ramifications, must hunt for the particular branches through upwards of five hundred folio pages. Of this enormous defect, the present editors seem to be abundantly sensible; and having done every thing in their power to remedy it, by a copious and accurate index, they promise to adopt a more systematic arrangement in the subsequent volumes.

The arrangement which they ought to adopt, is indeed very obvious, and has doubtless been well digested by themselves; yet as we wish success to an undertaking, which, if judiciously executed, may certainly be of national utility, we shall take the liberty to offer a few hints to their consideration, of which they may make what use they please.

In Scotland, as in every other country, where the feudal system has been fully established, the families of ancient descent are divided into clans. Of these clans each has a chief; but to ascertain to whom the chieftainship belongs, is sometimes a task of no little difficulty; and the historian who attempts it, is in danger, when there are competitors, of giving offence to more than one of his readers. So late as the year 1774, MacLeod, of Raasay, was almost offended at Dr. Johnson, for having, in his *Journey to the Western Islands*, said that MacLeod, of Dunvegan, was acknowledged as chief of the clan. This hazard the editors of the *Baronage of Scotland* must however be contented to run; otherwise it seems to us altogether impossible to give to their work a systematical arrangement. Having ascertained, on the best evidence which they can procure, the family which has the justest claim to the chieftainship over the other families of the same name, they should begin with tracing that family from its origin down to the present day, barely mentioning, as they proceed in the order of descent, the various branches which have successively sprung from it. They will thus delineate, without confusion, the pedigree of the chief family of the clan; and by proceeding from it through its various branches, beginning with the branch which sprung from the parent stock at the most remote period, they will be able, in the compass of not many pages, to give a luminous view of the history of the whole clan. The clans themselves should be ranged according to their seniority, the eldest occupying the first place; and if the dulness of genealogical detail be occasionally relieved by such biographical anecdotes as they have published of the family of Hawthornden, a work may be published on this plan, which shall be at once entertaining and instructive, and which will undoubtedly command a very extensive sale.

ART. IV. *A Treatise on Chirurgical Diseases, and on the Operations required in their Treatment, from the French of Messrs. Chopart and Desault, late Professors of Surgery at the practical Academy, and principal Surgeons to the Hotel Dieu, Paris. In Two Volumes. By William Turnbull, A. M. F. M. S. and Surgeon to the Eastern Dispensary. With an Introduction, Index, and Appendix, containing Notes and Observations, by the same. Volume I. 8vo. 540 pp. 3s. Richardson, Royal-Exchange, London. 1797.*

THE reputation of the original work is so well established, as to render it unnecessary that we should give any account of its contents. The edition from which this translation

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is made, is said to have received considerable improvements. What these are, will probably be noticed by the translator, in the next volume, which is, we are told, to contain the notes. Of the propriety of publishing notes to a practical treatise on surgery, in a separate volume, long after the text they are intended to illustrate, we shall not speak definitively, until we are in possession of them. There are certainly objections to such a plan, which the translator does not seem to have properly weighed.

The translator seems apprehensive that he may incur the censure of his countrymen, for giving this work in an English dress, on account of the war subsisting between this country and France.

"In the discharge of a duty," he says, "which sensibility imposes and virtue consecrates, I cannot but lament, that any circumstance should occur, or any reason be adduced, however plausible or evanescent, that had a tendency to defeat or impede it; but such I have been told is the peculiar condition of the present æra, that to publish a warm eulogium on the character of a Frenchman might, at this day, either subject the writer to a suspicion of disaffection, or want of prudence. I cannot think so meanly of my countrymen as to accede to this opinion, nor can I, even for a moment, entertain the stinking vice, however decorated in the trappings of prudence, that forbids me to plant a laurel on the sepulchre of virtue. It is true, we are at this moment unfortunately contending in arms with the Republic of France; but surely we are not at war with Science, nor with the honoured names of the illustrious dead. Shall I, then, as the humble translator of Chopart and Default, whose labours were directed to the preservation of humanity, be fairly subject to a reproach for recording the great and estimable qualities of these children of Science? Shall I be accused of want of respect to the *chief magistrate*, or failing in allegiance to my country, if I attempt to draw a faithful outline of Gallic excellence?"

We answer, certainly not. We believe there is no Englishman, however warmly attached to his king, and to the constitution of his country, but would be happy to see transfused into our language every work of excellence, however hostile the quarter might be from which it came. As little offence would be taken at any just eulogium bestowed on the writer; and in the present case there might perhaps be a peculiar propriety in giving such praise; as Default, who appears to have taken a principal part in the work, was in a particular manner obnoxious to the leaders of the Revolution, doubtless from an apprehension, that he was not quite satisfied with their principles. In the year 1793, he was denounced, seized, and sent to the Luxembourg, and only owed his escape from thence to the

the difficulty, his biographer says, which they found in filling his place at the Hotel Dieu.

He died almost suddenly in February, 1795, a very few days before his unfortunate patient, the young king, not without strong suspicions of his being destroyed, to prevent his disclosing the horrid scenes it was supposed he must have been witness to at the Temple, or explaining the real cause of the death of that unfortunate Prince. The translator thinks it incumbent on him to vindicate the character of the French rulers from the imputation of having committed such a crime; and yet he acknowledges that it is even now pretty generally believed; and believed, we will add, by persons, who, being of the same country, know how to appreciate the principles and the hearts of the persons suspected. The late Lord Orford, in a postscript to his *Historic Doubts*, says, if the French Revolution had taken place before the publication of his *Doubts*, as to the atrocities of which Richard the Third has been accused, he should never have thought of objecting to the belief of any of them, on account of the high improbability there was, that any man could have been so wantonly cruel and wicked as he is represented to have been; since many of the leaders in the French Revolution have gone far beyond the highest act of wickedness of which Richard was ever accused. Yet this translator passes a general eulogium on the savage leaders of the revolution, and attempts to throw the odium of all the murders that have been committed, on this and other neighbouring countries, or on the ministers of the gospel; as if he held it criminal in all orders of persons who attempted to resist the tyranny, or did not bow their necks to the yoke the revolutionists were preparing for them.

"In the year 1789," he says, Introduction, p. 11, "the Revolution commenced by the destruction of that tomb of the living, generally denominated the Bastille. From this memorable period, every succeeding day was the parent of some new disaster, *The agents of foreign tyranny* were dispersed throughout the metropolis to excite commotion, and support the expiring influence of a papal domination and despotic rule; faction succeeded faction; proscriptions were multiplied; the fairest and richest provinces in the European world were devastated by the unrelenting hand of civil discord; a *murderous and inexorable priesthood* read themselves throughout the land, and the mitred savage stained the reverend crossier, that sacred symbol of apostolic purity, in the blood of thousands; fanaticism and desolation were united; the father slew the son or the son the father; the tranquil arts, affrighted from their seat, flew into the shade, there to languish until the genial star of Liberty appeared to cheer their way, and conduct them through the wilderness; anarchy for some time re-

* These assertions are without even the shadow of a foundation. *Rev. velled*

velled in destruction, and the glorious and virtuous struggles of a brave people, contending for a legitimate and well-poised liberty, seemed to yield under the pressure of external combination and civil warfare."

Surely the translator will not call this wanton attack on the governments in the neighbourhood of France, and on the injured and proscribed ministers of the Gospel, *the discharge of a duty which sensibility imposed and virtue consecrated*, or pretend that his eulogium on the perpetrators of the horrid barbarities with which the revolution has been accompanied, was necessary to the fame and character of the work he was translating; to which we shall return.

The present volume contains a definition of surgery, a description of the different operations, and of the instruments and implements used in surgery, with an account of the diseases and accidents incident to the head, face, neck, and parts contained in them. As a specimen of the translation, we shall give the account of "Injuries of the Brain and its Membranes."

" Wounds by puncturing and incisive Bodies.

" Wounds of the dura mater and brain, occasioned by an edged instrument, may be considered as simple, and are nearly as easily cured as those of the greater part of the other viscera, provided the matter can find a passage, and the blood be stopped which flows from the divided vessels. Wounds made by pointed bodies are always more fatal, because their depth cannot be ascertained, and *give room to the extravasation of blood*, to inflammation, and suppuration. They require trepanning, which must be performed before symptoms of compressed brain or inflammation have appeared."

" By blunt Bodies and Fire-Arms.

" Blunt bodies [either] penetrate into the brain, or injure it without penetrating its substance. The first are for the most [part] produced by gunpowder. The *wounds which happen in this viscus* (wounds occasioned by musket-balls, perhaps) though very deep, are in some respects less dangerous than those which result from blunt instruments, of another nature. A man wounded by a musket-ball has been cured, and *which, entering through the nostril* (that is, we presume, although the ball passing through the nostril) had sunk the base of the cranium, traversed the anterior lobes of the brain, and pierced the coronal suture at two fingers breadth of [from] its junction with the parietal bones; and another, wounded by a ball which had passed through the superior part of one of the temporal bones, and went out on the opposite side. In these kind of wounds the brain suffers no concussion, it is only injured in the passage which the ball has formed. If no foreign bodies remain, if the opening which the ball has made, or those of the trepan, afford a free discharge to the suppuration, the wounds, though very serious in appearance, will in most cases be more likely attended with success, than wounds produced by another cause, and in which the symptoms shall appear less alarming. They may be even remedied though foreign bodies remain in the brain. There are instances of balls

balls having remained in the head, without having occasioned any impediment to the cure, or produced any affection whatever, and have after death been found in the brain. Therefore wounds in this *viscus* are not always mortal; an incision may be made into it, and even in cases of necessity a portion of it may be removed."

This passage, which is chosen as rather a favourable specimen of the language, is by no means so perspicuous or correct as it might and ought to have been. It is hoped the translator will take more pains with the second volume, and that this will undergo a careful revision before it is sent a second time to the press.

ART. V. *A Tour in Switzerland; or, a View of the present State of the Governments and Manners of those Cantons: with comparative Sketches of the present State of Paris. By Helen Maria Williams. Two Volumes. 8vo. 12s. Robinsons. 1798.*

IT is with a melancholy impression that we take a view of the course which this female has pursued, since she first appeared in our volumes in the character of a professed author. She began her career in this country respected, and in some degree followed by individuals of the first talents, accomplishments, and virtues. She caught the infection of Gallic liberty, and, passing over to France, attached herself to some of the principal performers in the tragedy of the revolution, partook of their enthusiasm, and assisted at their counsels. Her publications at that period were characterized by the flippancy of those to whom she assimilated herself, and were more remarkable for the gaudy glare of declamation, than for sound reason or sober argument. Escaping with difficulty from the vortex into which her associates were plunged by Robespierre, with multitudinous destruction, we now see her the companion of a man employed by the French government, on a mission to Switzerland, as an incendiary, as a spy, or, occasionally perhaps, expected to act in both those honourable characters.

Female modesty, the lovely ornament of our countrywomen, opposes in France but a feeble barrier to Jacobinical principles, which laugh at morality, and despise religion. Miss or Mrs. Williams consequently felt no compunction at attending Mr. S. on his excursion, who is, we are told, a married man, and has a wife living in this country.

With respect to the intrinsic merit of these volumes, we may decisively say it is very limited indeed. Setting aside the elaborate,

borate, and sometimes very affected apostrophes to "Liberty," with the cant about which the reader is perpetually disgusted, there is little to detain or interest the critic. Very inferior to Mrs. Radcliffe in powers of description, and still less her equal in powers of imagination, and the rare faculty of judgment, Mrs. Williams appears to have made that lady her model in various places.

The second and third chapters, describing the licentious gaieties of Paris, seem rather out of place in an account of Switzerland; we shall, nevertheless, transcribe a part of these, as containing some curious particulars.

"The fetes of the court, it is asserted by the few persons remaining in France, by whom they were frequented, were but tawdry splendours compared with the classical elegance which prevails at the fetes of our republican contractors. As a specimen of these private balls, I shall trace a short sketch of a dance lately given by one of the furnishers of stores for fleets and armies, in his spacious hotel, where all the furniture, in compliance with the present fashion at Paris, is antique; where all that is not Greek is Roman; where stately silken beds, massy sofas, worked tapestry, and gilt ornaments, are thrown aside as rude Gothic magnificence, and every couch resembles that of Pericles, every chair those of Cicero; where every wall is finished in arabesque, like the baths of Titus, and every table, upheld by Castors and Polluxes, is covered with Athenian busts and Etruscan vases; where that modern piece of furniture a clock is concealed beneath the classic bar [qu?] of Phœbus, and the dancing hours; and every chimney-iron is supported by a Sphinx, or a Griffin. The dress of his female visitors was in perfect harmony with the furniture of his hotel; for although the Parisian ladies are not suspected of any obstinate attachment to Grecian modes of government, they are most rigid partizans of Grecian modes of dress, adorned like the contemporaries of Aspasia—the loose light drapery, the naked arm, the bare bosom, the sandaled feet, the circling zone, the golden chains, the twisting tresses, all display the most inflexible conformity to the laws of republican costume. The most fashionable hair dresser of Paris, in order to accommodate himself to the classical taste of his fair customers, is provided with a variety of antique busts as models; and when he waits on a lady, enquires if she chuses to be dressed that day *à la Cleopatre*, *la Diane*, or *la Psyche*? Sometimes the changeful nymph is a vestal, sometimes a Venus; but the last rage has been the *Niobé*, of late fat and lean, gay and grave, old and young, have been all *à la Niobé*; and the many-curled periwig, thrown aside by the fashionable class, now decorates the heads of pretty shop-keepers.

"The fair Grecians being determined not to injure the contour of fine forms by superfluous incumbrances, no fashionable lady at Paris wears any pockets, and the inconvenience of being without is obviated by sticking her fan in her belt, sliding in a flat purse of morocco leather, only large enough to contain a few louis, at the side of her neck, and giving her snuff-box and her pocket-handkerchief to the care of the gentleman

gentleman who attends her, and to whom she applies for them whenever she has occasion.

"For a short time during the winter, in defiance of frost and snow, the costume of a few reigning belles was not *à la grec*, but *à la sauvage*. To be dressed *à la sauvage*, was to have all that part of the frame which was not left uncovered clad in a light drapery of flesh colour. The boddice under which no linen was worn (shifts being an article of dress long since rejected at Paris, both by the Greeks and the Savages) the boddice was made of knitted silk, clinging exactly to the shape, which it perfectly displayed; the petticoat was on one side twisted up by a light festoon; and the feet, which were either bare or covered with a silk stocking of flesh colour, so woven as to draw upon the toes like a glove upon the fingers, were decorated with diamonds. These gentle savages, however, found themselves so rudely treated when ~~ever~~ they appeared, by the sovereign multitude, that at length the fashions of Otaheite were thrown aside, and Greece remains the standing order of the day.

"But to return to the contractor, and his ball—after several hours had past in dancing cotillons, which the young women of Paris perform with a degree of perfection—a light nymphish grace unseen elsewhere—and after the waltz, which is now never forgotten at a Paris ball, had proved that the steady heads of Niobés were not to be made giddy, the company was led to a supper furnished with Eastern magnificence, and decorated with attic taste. After supper the folding doors of the saloon were thrown open to a garden of considerable extent, beautifully illuminated with coloured lamps, and its trees bending with lavish clusters of fruits of every season, and every climate, formed of ice, while fountains poured forth streams of orgeat, lemonade, and liqueurs." Vol. i. p. 30.

The following extract may serve to show the author's talent at description.

"In the mean time we passed hastily through Zurich, in our way to Schaffhausen, for although I have been assured that the cataract of the Rhine was "but a fall of water," it had excited so tormenting a curiosity, that I found I should be incapable of seeing any thing else with pleasure or advantage, till I had once gazed upon that object.

"When we reached the summit of the hill which leads to the fall of the Rhine, we alighted from the carriage, and walked down the steep bank, whence I saw the river rolling turbulently over its bed of rocks, and heard the noise of the torrent, towards which we were descending, increasing as we drew near. My heart swelled with expectation—our path, as if formed to give the scene its full effect, concealed for some time the river from our view, till we reached a wooden balcony, projecting on the edge of the water, and whence, just sheltered from the torrent, it bursts in all its overwhelming wonders on the astonishing sight. That stupendous cataract, rushing with wild impetuosity over those broken, unequal rocks, which, lifting up their sharp points amidst its sea of foam, disturb its headlong course, multiply its falls, and make the *afflicted* waters roar—that cadence of tumultuous sound, which had never till now struck upon my ear—those long feather-
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they surges, giving the element a new aspect—that spray rising into clouds of vapour, and reflecting the prismatic colours, while it disperses itself over the hills—never, never can I forget the sensations of that moment! when with a sort of annihilation of self, with every past impression erased from my memory, I felt as if my heart were bursting with emotions too strong to be sustained. Oh, majestic torrent! which hast conveyed a new image of nature to my soul, the moments I have passed in contemplating thy sublimity will form an epocha in my short span!—thy course is coeval with time, and thou wilt rush down thy rocky walls when this bosom, which throbs with admiration of thy greatness, shall beat no longer.

“What an effort does it require to leave, after a transient glimpse, a scene on which, while we meditate, we can take no account of time! its narrow limits seem too confined for the expanded spirit; such objects appear to belong to immortality; they call the musing mind from all its little cares and vanities, to higher destinies and regions, more congenial than this world to the feelings they excite. I had been often summoned by my fellow-travellers to depart, had often repeated “but one moment more,” and many “moments more” had elapsed, before I could resolve to tear myself from the balcony.

“We crossed the river, below the fall, in a boat, and had leisure to observe the surrounding scenery. The cataract, however, had for me a sort of fascinating power, which, if I withdrew my eyes for a moment, again fastened them on its impetuous waters. In the background of the torrent a bare mountain lifts its head encircled with its blue vapours; on the right rises a steep cliff, of an enormous height, covered with wood, and upon its summit stands the Castle of Laußen, with its frowning towers, and encircled with its crannied wall; on the left, human industry has seized upon a slender thread of this mighty torrent in its fall, and made it subservient to the purposes of commerce. Foundries, mills, and wheels, are erected on the edge of the river, and a portion of the vast basin into which the cataract falls is confined by a dyke, which preserves the warehouses and the neighbouring huts from its inundations. Sheltered within this little nook, and accustomed to the neighbourhood of the torrent, the boatman unloads his merchandize, and the artisan pursues his toil, regardless of the falling river, and inattentive to those thundering sounds which seem calculated to suspend all human activity in solemn and awful astonishment; while the imagination of the spectator is struck with the comparative littleness of fleeting man, busy with his trivial occupations, contrasted with the view of nature in all her vast, eternal, uncontrollable grandeur.

“We walked over the celebrated wooden bridge at Schaffhausen, of which the bold and simple construction is considered as an extraordinary effort of genius in the architect. Being altogether unqualified to judge of, or to describe its merit, I shall only observe, that nature seems to have given the Swiss, together with their rapid rivers, and their torrent streams, an extraordinary genius for erecting bridges, of such daring design, hung upon the cliff, and suspended over the gulph, that we are not surprised to find superstition has sometimes attributed them to supernatural agency.” Vol. i. p. 58.

In the second volume the author makes occasional deviations from the main subject, to discuss matters of politics, literature, and the arts. At p. 129, she speaks of the Natural Museum of Paris in terms of enthusiastic rapture. She omits to say, that it was the fruit of plunder, rapine, and desolation, and has this singular expression; "since the conquest of the Flemish and Italian schools, it may be said to contain almost the whole of what is great or celebrated in the history of the arts."

The scattered remarks on the effects and progress of the French Revolution sometimes make us smile, and sometimes incline us to be angry. We discern, we think also, not only the sentiments, but occasionally also the language of another; at least there are great and striking inequalities of style. The letters lately intercepted on their way to Dr. Priestley, both confirm this idea, and almost lead to the power of specifying individuals.

We go back to the first volume, to transcribe the following passage.

"Throughout the wide extent of the Republic, Gothic abbeys are transformed into manufactories, cloisters become work-shops, chapels are converted into warehouses, the recesses of solitary superstition are invaded, and the hollow echoes of the long-resounding aisles, which were once only responsive to the solemn slow-breathed chant, now repeat the rude dissonance of the workman's tools. A strange confusion of images is excited in the mind by the present contemplation of these antique edifices, which imagination has been accustomed to appropriate to congenial inhabitants, pacing silently along their vaulted passages in floating garments, instead of which you now meet the bare-armed, brawny artificer, and all ideas of solemn stillness vanish amidst the rude gabble of his noisy brood. No doubt an artisan is far more useful than a monk, but he looks much less picturesque when placed beneath a ruined arch, and gazed at in perspective." Vol. i. p. 21.

We have inserted this extract merely to show how superior is this Lady Politician to the compunctious visitations of pity, unless indeed the following exclamation may be considered as such. "The philosophic mind wanders often in musing mood along those festive haunts where the most singular combinations croud upon reflection, and amidst the glowing enthusiasm of liberty mourns those partial evils that have clouded its brightness," &c. &c. Again, in p. 127, vol. i. we have the following brilliant apostrophe.

"That revolution had not yet taken place, which appears destined to break the fetters of mankind in whatever region they are found, and which transforms what was once the vision of poetic enthusiasm, into the sober certainty of expectation."

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Notwithstanding these, and other passages of *similar beauty*, with the exception of the history of an emigrant family, which is interesting, we have no scruple to say, that this is at best but a dull publication, with little novelty of remark, and still less of important information.

The appendix contains observations on the Glacieres and Glaciers, by M. Ramond, in which are introduced some good verses, to the author of the Botanic Garden, obviously in imitation of the "*Tears of Old May-Day*," first published in *The World*.

ART. VI. *Sermons; chiefly upon practical Subjects. By the Rev. Samuel Bishop, A. M. late Chaplain to the Bishop of Bangor, Rector of Ditton, in Kent, and St. Martin, Outwich, London; and Head-Master of Merchant-Tailors' School. 8vo. 6s. Cadell and Davies; and Rivingtons. 1798.*

WE lately commended, with the warmth they deserved, the *poetical* works of this ingenious writer*. With a hope of finding equal excellence in a different species of writing, we took up this volume, the produce of graver talents; though gravity, when seasonable, was never forgotten by this respectable author. We are by no means disappointed in our expectation. If the specimens, which we shall place before our readers, appear to them in the same light in which they have appeared to us, the character we shall give of these sermons will not be wanted to engage for them a very general and respectful attention.

The text of Sermon IX, is 1 Peter iii, 13. "*Who is he that shall harm you if ye be followers of that which is good?*" That this is the best preservative against the injuries to which we are exposed in the world, is shown by the following, among other arguments.

"In following as Christians that which we know to be good, we are bound in general to the practice of duties whose universal tendency it is to correct and soften the tempers of men, and this is a very powerful provision against the wrongs we are subject to in the course of common life. Whosoever will look a little more considerately into the daily current of affairs in the world, will find most of the misfor-

* See Brit. Crit, vol. viii, pp. 460, 627.

tones which men suffer by one another, to proceed from obstinacy contending with obstinacy, and from fierceness raging against fierceness. Misery and destruction never drive with more fatal speed over the necks of men, than when furious or unremitting tempers clash with each other. The Christian, therefore, whose most exalted virtue is forbearance, whose dependance is upon a dispensation of good-will and forgiveness, and whose Saviour was the most perfect pattern of patience and condescension—the Christian ought never to be a party in eager and rash resentment. He cannot consistently with his duty be inclined to encounter pride with pride, because he knows that God resisteth the proud, and giveth his grace, the grace which faith and obedience ever wish for, only to the humble:—he cannot, consistently with his duty, be inclined to provoke the passions of another, because he knows that his God hath no pleasure in the death of a sinner, and will therefore surely disapprove the conduct by which his creatures urge each other to sin, the source of death:—he cannot consistently with his religion wish another to suffer; and therefore he will subdue his own spirit, that it may never contribute to the mortification or misery of his brother:—and being under these and similar restraints, which Christianity lays upon him, (namely, that he is to follow peace with all men, to consider unity as the very bond of perfectness, and to be known as Christ's disciple by the love he shews to his brethren in the world,) revenge, petulance, obstinate resistance, and injurious perverseness, he cannot in conscience be wilfully guilty of himself;—and therefore he, of all men, will be most likely to be free from the effects of these passions in others.—Shewing no pride or anger, he will provoke no pride or anger; he will add no fuel to them in other men: they will have nothing to triumph over in him, while meekness and compliance are the principles of his sentiments, and conduct. Indignation and rage subsist in general upon opposition; and what temptation or pretence can they have to harm him, whose desire of fulfilling his duty, and following that which is good, makes him regard all resentful and pertinacious contention as unworthy, unholy and unlawful?" P. 149.

In the same sermon, we meet with an observation which is *generally* true, though the *new* principles and habits of a neighbouring country have lately much contradicted it.

"Nay, it is an acknowledged certainty, that how much soever men may disclaim or neglect religion and virtue themselves, they yet generally approve, and often revere them in others! The mere venerable character of a good and pious man has been known to impress an unaccountably irresistible awe upon the treachery or cruelty which meditated his destruction. The hand lifted up to strike, has fallen harmless, and the heart hardened to persecute has forgot its malignant purpose, either through the consciousness of superior excellence, or through astonishment at the endurance, or through pity for the sufferings of the meek and merciful; of men who, in obedience to the principles, and in the practice of the virtues of Christianity, have by their conduct taken such general hold of the approbation and respect
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of mankind, as even the most savage dispositions were compelled to discern and to feel." P. 156.

From the same excellent sermon we are induced to make another extract.

"Moreover, in following what is good, according to the Gospel, a man is sure to learn, what he can only learn from that great source of true and important knowledge, namely, the real value of things which are held good in vulgar estimation; and the just and proper judgment which candour would make of the evils of life. And as there is no doubt but the opinions of men upon these matters are too commonly erroneous, and their pursuits and actions, in consequence of such opinions, as commonly absurd, so there is all reason to conclude that, where the judgment of worldly advantages and inconveniences is right, and the conduct is agreeable to such judgment, the effect which good or evil will produce, must be very different from that which they would have upon persons directed by erroneous opinions to absurd pursuits and actions. Pride, for instance, generally derives its joy (and indeed its subsistence) from such objects as a Christian knows to be insignificant, unworthy or perhaps hurtful; and therefore, though a proud man, thinking to oppress a follower of that which is good, should take from him the things which pride enjoys, he does not take from him what *he* would enjoy: *he*, the Christian, would probably reject, if it were offered to him, what his oppressor thinks it a triumph to deprive him of. We judge not of things as *they* are, but as *we* are: and the proud presume they shall hurt others most by denying, what they feel it would hurt themselves most to be denied. And the case is exactly similar with fraud, malice, falsehood, avarice, ambition, and the like; their several objects are to them important, and they consequently suppose the want of those objects a great and real loss; whereas the true state of the fact is precisely the reverse: the objects of fraud, malice, falsehood, avarice, and ambition are probably disregarded, or even held in abhorrence by the follower of that which is good: and therefore the taking from him what those vices pursue, is but taking that—for which he cares not. He distinguishes too justly between real and imaginary good and evil, to feel what wicked men feel from losses or injuries, because he judges not, as they judge; and therefore, though it is certain that when they oppress and trouble him, they do him no less *wrong*, yet it is equally certain that they *harm him less*, than by the same conduct they would harm any others, who were not, like him, the constant followers, and—because the constant followers—the best judges of that which is good." P. 161.

The conclusion of Sermon X, preached at a visitation, demands attention from the clergy in particular.

"That we may commend ourselves to that conscience which will inspire the opinions men are likely to form of the true belief, from its visible and constant effect upon the conduct of those who profess it themselves, and who wish to recommend it to others—it will be necessary that, as partakers of a gospel of peace and good-will, we should
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be, in every thing, with every man, in thought as well as in act, in public and in private—not studious only, not only observant—but fond also—if I may use the expression—fond of peace and goodwill ;—that in professing to worship a God of purity in spirit and in truth, we should preserve general simplicity and innocence in our whole carriage ;—that both our lives and our conversation should be far removed from all contention, all moroseness, all presumptive superiority, all hardness of heart, all harshness of judgment, or arrogance of decision ;—that, in enjoying and boasting of a Revelation which represents to us our God, as commiserating our frailties and offences—and our Saviour, the Son of God, as appearing in our likeness, as teaching for our improvement, as dying for our redemption, and as rising again for our future justification, and our everlasting salvation,—we should walk like men, who having freely received these best tidings humanity could be blessed with, would freely communicate them ; like men, who have a dispensation upon earth, which can lift their thoughts to heaven ; like men, who having so glorious instruction for being, and such convincing and engaging motives to be—are therefore—better—in the sight of God and man!

“ As these are truths which will be readily admitted, it would be unnecessary, I persuade myself, to describe how peculiarly we, my Christian brethren, to whom our respective appropriated offices in the church of God, interwoven as they are with the political constitution of our country, have been committed—how peculiarly *we* are concerned in the general obligation, to exhibit in our lives and conversations, the full and effective evidence of truths so obvious and so important !—All our conscience, as teachers of the Gospel, is as much bound by the obligation, which we are under, to commend the excellence and power of our holy religion thus properly to men, as all the conscience of men is, to approve and embrace the religion which shall come so recommended to them by our behaviour and example.—He, himself, upon whose divinity our faith is founded ; and to whose honour, all our endeavours should be devoted, called,—and never was word more justly applied ;—he called his Gospel *Light* ; and he gave us together with it a precept, whose force it is impossible not to perceive and acknowledge, when he delivered it so strictly in charge to us, to let *our light shine* before men, that they might see our good works ; and that, being convinced by the operation of *his holy light* upon our conscience, and compelled by the corresponding testimony of their own, they might glorify their Father which is in heaven : while they should find by the experiment of our blameless, vigilant, and affectionate ministration, that the evangelically zealous labourers in the Lord's harvest, far from usurping or seeking dominion over the faith of men, are earnestly setting forth the word of truth, in the spirit of meekness ; and can render themselves, by animated piety, by instructive condescension, and by exemplary intercourse among their brethren—what it will be, as well their glory, as it is evidently their duty, to appear—helpers, at once, of the joy, and promoters of the salvation of mankind !”

P. 187.

Sermon XIII. on Heb. xi, 4, preached upon the anniversary of Mr. Raine's Charity, is soundly eloquent and instructive.

"Men may, in speculation, infer the probable duration and prosperity of particular states, from their situation, from their forms of government, from the improvable genius, and from the enterprising and enduring courage of their natives; in all which distinctions this our country has, perhaps, scarce her equal under heaven; and so far as speculation goes, the inference is just and reasonable; but experience, the universal experience of mankind, has proved incontrovertibly, in the rise and in the fall of the greatest nations than ever rose or fell, how entirely the manners of a people determine the fortune of a people. Aware of this, the wise and good citizen, whose charitable deed now calls upon your attention, applied his generous gift to the encouragement of virtuous, though humble emulation, in the children whom he adopted; as it were, for his own. Avail yourselves of the salutary example; teach your children all that becomes good men, and good subjects; save them from the contagion of fashionable levity and dissoluteness; inure them to frugality, to integrity, to simplicity; instruct them early to distinguish between devotion and enthusiasm, between accomplishments and affections, between liberty and licentiousness; make them Christians, and you will make them patriots, of course; you will have the comfort of seeing them worthy partakers, and the merit of leaving them fit and able defenders of that invaluable inheritance, a protestant church, under an English constitution." P. 243.

We shall add one more extract, from Sermon XIV, on Isa. xlv, 20, preached upon a fast-day.

"We shall moreover bear too strong a resemblance to those who have a lie in their right hands, if, while we make a formal confession of that visible relaxation of manners and debasement of sentiment, and of that open increase of fantastic extravagance, which may so justly be called epidemical among us, we continue still, by our unguarded expressions or heedless behaviour, to countenance and concur with the prevailing insatiation. It is harder, I will allow, to be singularly good and grave: but is it not for that reason more honourable? We see constantly individuals affecting to take the lead in matters of taste, as it is called, and of pleasure, and standing forth the avowed patterns of idle, and frequently of vicious innovations; till fashion in a short time authorises, what folly or dissoluteness begun; and the world appears at last, in the livery of a trifler or a profligate. "You must do as others do," is the language of indolence and dissipation. But might not the same argument be as forcibly pleaded in behalf of truth, prudence, and religion, whenever *they* appear? Would even a single person here and there determine not to be born down by the stream, is there not hope, that the sensibility, perseverance, and probity of such single persons, operating gradually on more, might in some degree stem, and, in time interrupt and turn, the current? The sepa-

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rate vice and levity of individuals makes up the idea of general depravity : and does not the idea of general reformation include as evidently the aggregate result of separate seriousness and virtue ? Every man can, and every man ought, for himself at least, to endeavour to amend his own life ; till he hath done that, his complaints of the public depravity, however just they may be in fact, (and indeed they are only too just,) will be like the voice of him that saith, " It is evil, it is evil, and ' goeth straightway and doth the same things." His confession to God may indeed be true ;—evil, there is enough ;—but his behaviour in the world being so inconsistent with his confession in the church, makes even that which is truth in his mouth be a lie in his right hand." P. 271.

A passage, extracted from the Preface, will perhaps be acceptable to our readers.

" As a specimen of his manner, where he aimed at impressive conciseness, it may be agreeable to the reader to see the following lines, written in a copy of the Book of Common Prayer presented by him to his daughter.

MY DEAR MARY,

Consult, Your Understanding for your Belief ;
Your Belief for your Conscience ;
Your Conscience for your Duty ;
Your Duty for your Devotion ; and
Your Devotion for your Comfort :
So help you God,
The Contents of this Book,
And the daily Prayers of
Your affectionate Father,

SAMUEL BISHOP." P. XL

We agree with the editor, that these sermons " are plain and practical ; they contain just and pious sentiments, expressed in a manly and forcible style ; and they breathe the genuine spirit of candour and Christian charity." " The reader will probably notice in them a peculiar turn of thought." We would rather say, a peculiar manner of viewing and considering any subject. For Mr. B. does not (as preachers sometimes say) *take occasion* from a text to do this or that, with which the text has no concern ; but he *actually finds* such occasion, where ordinary readers would not be aware that it exists. While he thus displays his *ingenuity*, he is by no means unduly *fanciful*. He is always a sound, as well as eloquent instructor. His sentiments are so natural*, and his

* A single exception occurred to us, at p. 330 ; where we find an antithetical conceit ; " In providing for a state that is to have *no end*, can it ever be too soon to make a *beginning* ?"

style so perspicuous, that an audience the most learned, or most polished, might attend to him with delight and instruction; and yet the plainest congregation might perfectly understand, and be truly edified by his discourses. We recommend this volume as singularly fit to be read in those well-ordered families, where religious and moral instruction are happily combined with an attention to all liberal, and really valuable accomplishments.

ART. VII. *Julia; or Last Follies.* 4to. Rivingtons. 3s. 6d.
1798.

IN this small but elegant collection, we seem to trace the hand of a master, not exerting itself in mighty efforts, but sporting with skill and grace. If such are his *last follies*, we would wish for "more last dying words;" and advise him to furnish, if he cannot find, the precedent of the *cycnea cantio* twice repeated. Unless our judgment much deceive us, these little poems proceed from the heart as well as the fancy, and resemble the pocket-book which Prior makes Cupid lose to Ganymede, "fill'd with good verse from real lovers."

We select the following specimens of the author's abilities:

" LOVE AND FRIENDSHIP.

The wretch, who on the rugged shore,
Ne'er hopes to see his country more,
By worse than ocean's billows toss'd,
To every sense of joy is lost.

I happier, near the green sea rové,
Follow'd by Friendship and by Love;
I gaze upon the billowy foam
And smile, though distant far from home.

Whilst wandering on the waters' brink,
On social joys I pause to think;
What cause have I for tear or sigh,
Whilst my loved Julia is nigh.

I listen to the stormy wind,
But look, and Anna see behind;
Thus, every passing hour I prove
The sweets of Friendship and of Love.

Loved pair! whose praise, whose worth to sing,
Demands a Muse with stronger wing;
Whether ye wander on the shore,
Whilst tempests rage and billows roar;

Julia: or Last Folio.

Or more serenely with me tread
 The silent grove, or flowery mead;
 Sweet Peace shall leave the angel throng,
 To guide our steps through life along,
 And Harmony from heaven shall bend,
 To cheer the Lover, and the Friend." P. 25.

We must except against the making *Julia* a trisyllable in the third stanza, which, to our surprise, occurs frequently in these poems. The following is playful and pleasing:

"TO A LADY,

Who threatened to make the Author an April Fool.

Why strive, dear girl, to make a fool
 Of one not wise before;
 Yet having 'scaped from Folly's school,
 Wouldst fain go there no more.

Ah, if I must to school again,
 Wilt thou my teacher be?
 I'm sure no lesson will be vain,
 Which thou canst give to me.

One of thy kind and gentle looks,
 Thy smiles devoid of art,
 Avail beyond all crabb'd books,
 To regulate my heart.

Thou needst not call some fairy elf,
 On any April day,
 To make thy bard forget himself,
 Or wander from his way.

One thing he never can forget,
 Whatever change may be,
 The sacred hour when first he met,
 And fondly gaz'd on thee.

A seed then fell into his breast,
 Thy spirit plac'd it there,
 Need I, my Julia, tell the rest?
 Thou seest the blossoms here." P. 37.

Of the typography and embellishments we need say no more, than that they are worthy of the work they ornament, and proceed from the press of Bulmer. The vignette in the title-page is most elegant in design, and is executed on wood with the skill of a Bewick. We have been told that it is the work of a pupil of that artist.

ART. VIII. *Dissertations on the Prophecies of the Old Testament*. In Two Parts. By David Levi, Author of Lingua Sacra, the Ceremonies of the Jews, &c. &c. &c.* 8vo. 1793—1796. About 300 pages each. 12s. Johnson, Kearsley, Walker, &c.

IT has been asserted, that the poet writes with more advantage when he devotes his lyre to the cause of fiction and falsehood, than when it is attuned in the service of truth. Without attempting to controvert this position, we protest against any extension of its limits. Be it understood, that the privilege, such as it is, can only be claimed by the "Sons of the Song." A prose writer, at all events, can command respect only so far as he takes truth for his guide, and writes on sound and stable principles.

The author, whose works are now under consideration, has done service to the cause of religion in many of his voluminous publications, by bringing forward, with some degree of strength and effect, the arguments which they who believe in divine revelation deem most cogent, in support of the authenticity and inspiration of the Old Testament. Attached, from not unpardonable motives, to the dogmas of his own peculiar cast, he has urged, and urged well, on other occasions, that evidence, which infidelity will never be able to cast down by open assault, or to undermine by treachery. It is painful therefore for us to be under the necessity of considering one who has been in some respects a serviceable ally, in the light of a determined adversary. But Mr. Levi, who then took up his arms against the deist and unbeliever, is now in his turn assaulting the sacred bulwarks of Christianity. In these days of trouble, rebuke, blasphemy, and insult, every enemy of every description is "lifting up his heel" against the faith of Jesus of Nazareth.

It is true, that from Mr. Levi, if he entered at all into the subjects contained in his second volume, we had no right to expect any particular favour, any partial indulgence. Common decency we had an undoubted right to expect. He "owes us no subscription;" but there is a debt of gratitude due to the country which protects and nourishes him; and he acknowledges the authority which commands the Jew to *seek the peace of the land wherein he dwells*. A person under this

* We are somewhat surprised at the expression, "*Old Testament*," in Mr. Levi's title-page. It seems to be too closely related to the *New* covenant of the Christian faith, to answer his purpose.

author's circumstances, may be indulged in the use of arms for self-defence; but justice, honour, gratitude, should forbid him to carry an offensive war against his fosterers and benefactors. "The law allows him here no jot of blood." We will never object to fair and liberal controversy, even on subjects sacred and venerable as those which Mr. Levi has selected; but it is with some difficulty that we restrain our indignant feelings, when we see the manner in which he has conducted his warfare. When we mark the bitterness and petulance, and acrimony of his controversial writings; when we read his unjust imputations, and his wretched witticisms; when we behold, not in the fiction of slander, but in truth, "an Hebrew brought in unto us to mock us."

To enter into a particular examination of all the tracts and arguments of Mr. David Levi, would engage us in too ample a field of discussion. This is not the place, nor, if it were, does any necessity in our opinion exist for laying again the foundation—the principles of Christianity. The case is not so desperate, but that our faith has many illustrious defenders, each in his proper rank, ready to combat for it, and to combat victoriously. These champions are worthy of their cause. It is under the protection of their arms that we, the *accusati* and *rerarii**, fight. But infidelity never dies. The same sophistry, how often soever exploded; the same fallacious arguments, how often soever confuted, are brought again and again into the field. Convinced, but not convinced, the enemy still lifts his mangled arm, his blunted sword, in defiance. Let the vigilance and activity then of the friends to religion, increase in proportion to the opposition which it has to encounter. So long as truth has assailants, let it not be wanting in apologists.

On the events which now disturb and agitate the world, Mr. Levi looks with particular vigilance and anxiety, as possibly conducive to the re-establishment of his nation, and preparatory to the coming of their expected deliverer; at which time he expects fourteen essential principles, as he calls them, to take place.

"1. That God will then take vengeance of the nations, by stirring them up to war with each other, in such a dreadful manner as she like hath never been yet seen; as also with plagues and pestilence, fire and brimstone, and horrible tempests from heaven.

* See Dr. Vincent's illustration of these words in his elaborate Essay on the Maniana legio.

"2. That

" 2. That the vengeance which will be taken on Edom and Botrah (*which is Rome*) will be far more dreadful, than that taken on any other of the other nations.

" 3. That the restoration, redemption, and salvation of Israel will then be complete and glorious.

" 4. That the descendants of the ten tribes carried away captive by *Shalmaneser*, king of Assyria, will then return.

" 5. That the future redemption will be entirely conformable to that of Egypt in every respect, the whole nation will be redeemed by the ministry of a great prophet—and the nations which hold them in subjection, or would prevent their return, WILL BE UTTERLY DESTROYED.

" 6. That God has appointed a certain and determinate time for the redemption of his people, which nothing can prevent from taking place.

" 7. That this redemption is not to take place till the Jews will be almost in a state of despair of being ever redeemed.

" 8. That the Shechinah, or visible symbol of the divine presence will be again restored; as also the spirit of prophecy.

" 9. That they who have apostatized from fear or other causes, and have blended themselves with other nations, will be restored to the communion of the Jewish church.

" 10. That a king of the lineage of David, and called by his name, will reign over the whole nation.

" 11. That after this redemption they will never go into captivity any more, neither they nor their posterity for ever.

" 12. That the great majority of nations which shall be left, will acknowledge the unity of God, will serve and worship him, and will earnestly desire to be instructed in his law.

" 13. That peace will then take place on all the earth.

" 14. That about this period the resurrection of the dead will take place*." Vol. ii, p. 92, &c.

We submit these principles to the examination of our readers, who will probably read them, not without astonishment, as with no small degree of clearness indicating, what it is that the Jews are said by Mr. Levi to expect, and how their expectations are to be realized.

The times, it is true, are awful. *Πομπή, σαρκαζόν, ὁ κύριος*. Iniquity abounds, and the love of many waxeth cold. Scoffers are every where to be found, not merely endeavouring to do away the promise of the Messiah's second coming, but to set aside the fact of his first advent. Mr. Levi, at this portentous moment, scorns to "flourish in the studies of ignoble ease." His knowledge is nothing, unless it is imparted to others.

* This does not seem to relate to the general consummation of all things, but to a sort of millenarian system, under the auspices of the Messiah expected by the Jews. *Rev.*

He deems it a favourable opportunity to stand boldly forward, and, if possible, to trample on the cross of Christ. This is the grateful return made for that indulgence and toleration, which, though they allow opinions, can hardly be intended to invite or authorize attacks.

Nothing certainly ever occurred in the history of mankind so extraordinary in its nature, as the case of that peccoliat and separate people to which Mr. Levi belongs. Never was so striking a monument of divine justice and power exhibited. Though scattered over the face of the whole earth, they carry with them every where the indelible stamp, imprinted on their foreheads by the hand of Providence; and we can scarcely conceive it possible for a man to be led astray by insidery, who in the course of his life had ever seen one of these fugitives and wanderers. How can any person who fixes his eyes on a Jew, do otherwise than say to him, "Thou dost altogether persuade me to be a Christian!"

Though they are dispersed in a manner entirely beyond example, there is not, at this moment, a country or a kingdom upon earth, where they have any permanent establishment. Any attempts which have been made to admit them to denizenship, have uniformly proved vain and abortive. Since the discovery of the new world has opened so vast a field for adventure, where immense districts of land, uncultivated, but capable of the highest degree of cultivation, offer themselves to their acceptance, is it not just matter of astonishment, that they have never undertaken any enterprise, by which they might in some degree remove the reproach of their nation? that they should never attempt to seek a country where they might enjoy their own laws; and wait for their expected deliverer? It is at first sight strange and unaccountable; it admits of only one possible solution. The decree which doomed them to be fugitives and wanderers, still exists in full force against them. By that decree they are still a reproach and a derision among all the nations where they are scattered. Wealth itself, the grand object of their desires, fails in procuring them what it procures to all other possessors, influence and honour. They are, it is true, undisturbed in the possession of their religion in this country; because the spirit of genuine Christianity is a gentle and not a persecuting spirit; and because we, of this age, reflect with horror on the bloodshed and massacres which disgraced a darker period in our history. But they are admitted into no governments; they form a part of no councils; and even the hope of plunder will scarcely entice an individual of their number into the field of battle.

The very circumstance of their continuing a distinct and separate people is little less than miraculous. When other nations were destroyed, their respective inhabitants no doubt in a certain degree became fugitives, and were dispersed throughout the world: but by degrees all traces of distinction have been lost. They have been incorporated into the nations whither they fled; and, after one or two generations, have no longer been considered as connected with Tyre, with Babylon, or Carthage, but as natural indigenous inhabitants of the countries whither they were driven. But this people, after the lapse of seventeen centuries, remain the same; no one trace of their character is weakened; and they preserve every feature of originality, while even the kingdoms into which they have fled have every one in its turn undergone revolutions which have shaken them to their very foundation.

It is evident from several parts of Mr. Levi's work, that he expects some great events as likely to take place in the present age, and regards the convulsions of the world as preparatory to those events.

We have noticed the fourteen inferences which he draws from the prophecies of Isaiah, and other inspired writers, as connected with the passing events, and with the hopes and expectations of the Jews. The nature and extent of these hopes Mr. Levi does not think it at all necessary to conceal. They are sufficiently obvious to every person "*endowed with ratiocination!*" Pref. Vol. I. vi.

The first dissertation, according to Mr. L.'s statement, contains all such prophecies as are applicable to the coming of the Messiah, the restoration of the Jews, and the resurrection of the dead, whether so applied by Jews or Christians.

The second part contains all such prophecies as are applied to the Messiah by Christians only, but which (*quo judice?*) are shown not to be applicable to the Messiah.

In detailing Mr. Levi's opinions to the public—opinions which he unequivocally professes to be the sentiments of the Jewish nation at large—we are far from admitting that they are so, to the extent of his assertion. From general conviction, on a subject of public notoriety, and from our personal knowledge of the dispositions of individuals among the Jews, we are persuaded that all are not of the bigotted uncharitable temper which Mr. Levi's remarks too plainly indicate. On the other hand, we fear his observation is but too true, that the poison of infidelity has carried its malignant influence even into the synagogue.

" Deism and infidelity have made such large strides in the world, that they have at length reached even to those of my own nation : many of whom are at this time so greatly infected with scepticism, by reading Bolingbroke, Hume, Voltaire, &c. that they scarcely believe in Revelation : much less have they any hope in our future restoration. These I would willingly reclaim, and save them from running headlong into ruin." Vol. I. p. xi.

Who is there, Jew or Christian, but must so far accompany Mr. Levi with fervent wishes for his success ?

On the dispersion of the Jews, as foretold by Moses, and afterwards accomplished with a most exact conformity to his predictions, Mr. Levi makes the following remark.

" He (Moses) also told them, " And ye shall be plucked from off the land whither thou goest to possess it." This is most singular, and really worthy of observation, that even before they had entered the land to take possession of it, he assures them, that if they disobeyed the Lord's commandments, they should be plucked off from it. Now, I defy any one to produce an instance of a Legislator ever staking his reputation thus : and the exact manner it hath been fulfilled, is clear from their history ; for they were indeed plucked off from their own land, when the ten tribes were carried away captive by the king of Assyria ; and of whom we know nothing certain to this hour : and when the other two tribes were carried captive to Babylon : but more especially, when their city and temple were destroyed, and the nation carried captive by the Romans." Introd. p. xxi.

Mr. Levi cannot be ignorant of the opinion of Josephus, as to the place whither the ten tribes were carried. He ascertains it* to be the province called in his time Adiabene, in Asia Minor, beyond Euphrates, in the vicinity of the Parthians. (See also the Preface to the first book de bellis Judæorum.)

Some very curious particulars on this subject may be met with in a small volume published towards the close of the last century, entitled " An Inspection into the Divine Prophecies touching the State of the Church in the latter Ages of the World. By W. A. (William Allen) 1684." A more extraordinary *Tableau speculatif* was never offered to public notice. We do not scruple to recommend it to the particular attention of Mr. Levi, from its intimate connection with several parts of his work.

Mr. Levi thus proceeds :

" He also tells them, that, " The Lord will make thy plagues wonderful, and the plagues of thy seed, even great plagues, and of

* οἱ γὰρ ἐν τῇ οὐκ αἰνῶντος πάντες αἰσὶ Ρωμαῖοι· ἂ μὴ τις ὑπὲρ Εὐφράτης ἵκνῃται τὰς ἐκκλῆδας, καὶ τὰς ἐκ τῆς Ἀδριατικῆς ὁμοφύλου οἰσται προσημαίνων.
De Bell. Jud. l. ii. c. 16.

long continuance," &c. And have not their calamities been of long continuance? Have they not continued upwards of seventeen hundred years? Their former captivities were very short in comparison of this: besides the time of their redemption was well known and ascertained: and during the Babylonish captivity, they had Prophets among them, who exhorted and comforted them; but during this long and dreadful captivity, there is not one true Prophet among them, to inform them of the end of their calamities; as the Psalmist says, "We see not our signs, (there is) no more any Prophets, neither (is there) among us any that knoweth how long." *Introd. p. xxxv.*

Instead of any observations of our own on this subject, we shall transcribe the dignified and animated apostrophe of a venerable divine of the last century*, in his Contemplations on the Passion.

"And have ye not now felt, O wretched and deluded nation, *what* blood it was, the guilt whereof ye claimed as your own? Have ye not been made a most memorable and lasting example of divine indignation? Did not many of you live to see your city buried in ashes, and drenched in slaughter? Was there ever a people under Heaven which exhibited such a spectacle of desolation and misery? Your former cruelties, apostasies, idolatries, occasioned you to be led captive for a season. God cannot but be just. This sin under which you now suffer must needs be something greater than those which went before, as your punishment is more signal. And what can that be but the murder of the Lord of Life? Ye have what ye wished: ye must be miserable, till ye are penitent."

The commencement of Mr. Levi's work ought to make some Christian translators and commentators (if it be not an abuse of language to call them Christians) blush for shame. We are ready to confess, that we allude to those who either deny the inspiration of the books of the Old Testament, or else who allege, that they can see no promise of the Messiah in the celebrated prophecies which they contain.

"The first who prophesied concerning the future restoration and salvation of the Jews, was BALAAM the son of Beor: for, although he was originally a diviner, or soothsayer, yet, was God pleased to endow him with the spirit of prophecy, that he might prophesy good concerning Israel, declare God's superintendence and government of the world; and promulgate among the Heathen his wonderful works with his chosen people. The prophecies of Balaam afford a manifest proof of the particular providence of God over his people, and his peculiar love towards them: for what could be a greater honour to them, than that a prophet called from another country, an immoral man, and one who came with a full intent to curse them for the sake of lucre, should be obliged to bless them, prophesy of their future

happiness, and bear testimony to their holiness. It is in fact, as the learned Abarbanal observes, the commendation of an enemy among enemies, which is a commendation indeed.

"The prophecy I purpose treating of, as applicable to the coming of the Messiah, &c. is the last of those he delivered, beginning, "Balaam, the son of Beor hath said," chap. xxiv. verse 15, till the end of verse 24." P. 1.

In a note on p. 2. we find Mr. Levi directly controverting a position of Bishop Newton, concerning which we thought it impossible for any difference of sentiment to have arisen. The Bishop (Disc. vol. i. p. 66) well, and truly observes, "*that there was no necessity that the Prophets should always be good men.*" At this Mr. Levi is highly offended; and rashly, but positively, affirms the direct contrary to be the fact. "In no part of Holy Scripture do we find an instance of unworthy persons being endowed with the gift of prophecy; neither did Aaron and Miriam mutiny against Moses, or rebel against God." We appeal to the 32d chapter of Exodus, and to the 12th of Numbers, for a full and decisive solution of this controversy, and for the complete justification of the learned prelate's sentiments.

Mr. Levi adds:

"The disobedience of Jonah was not the consequence of his unworthiness, but a sudden impulse, the consequence of his tender affection and solicitude for his brethren, *as being apprehensive*, that the Heathen might pay more attention to his admonitions *than what the Jews did** and which* might be the cause of bringing a heavy punishment upon them."

This detestable sentiment, on which Mr. David Levi and Mr. Benjoin have both dwelt with such peculiar energy, and for which they were indebted to the same corrupt and impure source of information, the wild theories of Rabbinical commentators, has been already exposed by us to the just censure of the public, in our remarks on the latter gentleman's translation of the prophet Jonah. Let the position of these writers be established, and we do not scruple to say, that there is not one instance on record, either in the sacred or profane writings, of such complete, deliberate, fiend-like malignity.

That through the various parts of Mr. Levi's work we find the most exact coincidence with the sentiments of this Mr. Benjoin, is most certain: and how can it be otherwise? They both attribute all perfection to the Talmud, and only refer to the illustrations of Christian divines and critics, as objects of

their censure and contumely. Lowth and Kennicott, names ever dear and venerable to truth, and learning, and piety, are honoured by the coarse abuse of both. Kimchi and Abarbanel are degraded by their praises. Mr. Levi's invectives, it is true, go further than those of his associate. Not content with attacking prelates and sages, he dares to stigmatize the most illustrious statesman, and the greatest poet, that England ever knew. Yet in the latter instance he admits, that the detestable portrait of Shylock was drawn by the hand of a *great master of nature*, and asserts it to have been so drawn, "that the Scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled against his insulenced persecuted nation" (p. xxxiv). If Shakespeare were indeed a "great master of nature," there is some degree of probability that the character he has portrayed is not altogether unnatural. It was an unguarded concession on the part of Mr. Levi; a concession, the value and importance of which we are ready to appreciate, and eager to acknowledge;

"We thank thee, Jew, for teaching us that word."

What degree of mercy we have ourselves to expect, when the debt (which, with accumulation of interest has remained unpaid since the days of our first Richard,) shall be finally exacted, Mr. Levi fairly and explicitly informs us.

"The punishment of the nations will not be by a long captivity, as was that of the Jews, but by sudden slaughter and destruction: as he says, verse 42d. "I will make mine arrows drunk with blood, and my sword shall devour flesh." He also shews the cause of their deserving this severe punishment, as mentioned in the latter part of the said verse. "And that for the blood of the slain, and the captives, from the beginning of the revenges of the enemy." From the time that the enemy first began to slay the captives of Israel, and to persecute them with the keenest revenge.

"In verse 43d, he concludes the Poem, saying, "Cause his people to rejoice, O ye nations: for he will avenge the blood of his servants, and will render vengeance to his adversaries." For as the nations have hitherto been the sole cause of all their trouble and sorrow, by cruelly persecuting them; he informs us, that at the coming of the Messiah, the case will be reversed; for then the nations will be the cause of joy, and triumph to God's chosen people, when they see how he will revenge the blood of his servants, who have been most cruelly put to death during this long captivity. And thus says the Psalmist, "The righteous shall rejoice when he seeth the vengeance." Vol. i. p. 564

A curious note is inserted at the foot of the 18th page of vol. i.

"In Spain and Portugal, they can scarcely distinguish between the dissembling Jews, and the real Christians, as Basnage observes, (Basnage, Book vii. chap. 21, sect. xxvi, and chap. 33, sect. 14.) for speak-
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ing of the Jews after the expulsion of the great body of the nation from thence, he says, " Nevertheless, it is true, that those who remained in *Spain* and *Portugal* dissembled instead of being converted. The number of these dissemblers is very considerable; and it ought not to be concluded, that there are no Jews in *Spain* or *Portugal*; because they are not known: they are so much the more dangerous, for not only being very numerous, but confounded with the ecclesiasticks, and entering into all ecclesiastical dignities. In another place, speaking of the Jewish nation, he says, " The most surprising thing is, that this religion spreads from generation to generation, and still subsists in the persons of dissemblers in a remote posterity." " In vain," says he, " the great Lords of Spain make alliances, (Oforious. libra. 14. Mariana. libra. 26. chap. 13.) change their names, and take ancient surnames; they are still known to be of a Jewish race, and Jews themselves. The convents of Monks and Nuns, are full of them. Most of the Canons, Inquisitors, and Bishops, proceed from this nation. This," says he, " is enough to make the people and clergy of this country tremble, since such sort of churchmen can only profane the sacraments, and want intention in consecrating the host they adore; in the mean time, OROBIO, who relates the fact, knew these dissemblers. He was one of them himself, and bent the knee before the sacrament. Moreover, he brings proofs of this assertion, in maintaining, that there are in the Synagogue of Amsterdam, brothers and sisters and near relations to good families of Spain and Portugal; and even Franciscan Monks, Dominicans, and Jesuits, who come to do penance for the crime they have committed in dissembling."

Page 7. " His king shall be higher than Agag." On this passage Mr. Levi strangely observes;

" The π of $\pi\alpha\gamma$ does not properly form the comparative, but denotes the same as the proposition $\pi\alpha$, from; and is what the Hebrew Grammarians call $\pi\alpha\gamma$ π i. e. denoting time: so that the meaning of the expression is, His king shall begin to be exalted FROM THE TIME OF AGAG; that is, from the time of Saul the first king of Israel, who overcame Agag; and that his kingdom should still be more exalted, &c." Note, p. 7.

Surely this interpretation can never be defensible. $\pi\alpha$, which denotes exaltation, pre-eminence, and the like, was the general appellation of the Amalekite kings. Thus Egypt had its succession of monarchs under the name of Pharaoh, and Ethiopia under that of Candau. There is not the most distant probability that the prophet had in view the tyrant of Amalek, who fell, by a just retribution, for his own accumulated barbarities*.

Mr.

* Both Levi and Benjoin, by a forced interpretation of the word $\pi\alpha\gamma$, endeavour, with an unmanly subterfuge, to escape from the malicious

Mr. Levi quits the panoply of grave argument in p. 129 : and has recourse to the lighter weapons of ridicule. With what success, let our readers judge!

" And, here, I must once for all, observe, that *all* the Prophecies which speak of the coming of the Messiah, the restoration and redemption of the nation, are to be understood in the most plain, obvious, and literal sense, and not in a spiritual and mystical sense, as the generality of Christians attempt to explain them. For can any thing be more absurd, than to explain the Prophecies which foretell the calamity which is to befall them, in a literal sense; and those which speak of their future felicity, in a spiritual and mystical sense; surely not. And it is not a little pleasant, to observe, the great kindness of Christians towards us in this respect: for they are extremely ready and willing to grant us the entire, and undisturbed possession of all the evils foretold us; which indeed, we have fully experienced for upwards of seventeen hundred years; whilst they, with equal generosity, apply to themselves, all the glorious promises, which, with equal certainty, predict our future happiness in the latter days. This, is kind indeed! and for which, I am sorry to say, our nation in general, and myself in particular, are not quite so thankful, as perhaps might be expected of us: for Truth, divine Truth! steps in." P. 129.

Mr. Levi is highly offended at the plurality attributed by Christians to the noun *אֱלֹהִים*. He alledges, that Moses particularly varies his language to prevent the possibility of such an interpretation.

" In verse 39th, He, by a most beautiful figure shews, that, when the nations shall thus have profaned the name of the Lord of hosts, that God will be jealous for his name's sake; and when he comes to punish them for their blasphemy, will say, " See now that I, *even* I *am* he, and *there is* no God with me." I am he unto whom the children of Israel offered their sacrifices, and I am the same now; for I *am* the Lord, I change not; neither is there any god with me: no plurality of persons, as ye said: no Elohim*: no trinity in Unity: but a perfect, pure-UNITY." P. 53.

From the very same premises we deduce a directly opposite conclusion. If language has any determinate meaning, what

malicious but weak attack of the unbelievers, on the subject of the excision of the Canaanites, an attack which can only be repelled by open, direct controversy.

* " It is really worthy of remark, that Moses does not make use of the noun *אֱלֹהִים*, as in verse 12th; but *אֱלֹהֵינוּ*, which the Christians say, denotes a plurality of persons in the Godhead, or a trinity in unity: he therefore, in order to explode that corrupt and pernicious doctrine, makes use of the noun *אֱלֹהֵינוּ*, as if he had said, that plurality which ye attributed to the noun Elohim, hath no existence with me, for I am a pure UNITÉ."

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can be the signification of *אֱלֹהִים* *one* *god*, but *one* *god*? I am the Elohim—in unity of essence, but plurality of persons, Jehovah?

It is needless to carry our remarks further on Mr. Levi's performance. The judgment we have passed on it is open to the public revision. We are grossly mistaken indeed, if the general verdict shall differ from our own.

To extend the severity of criticism to this author's grammatical or orthographical errors, would perhaps in the present instance be scarcely justifiable; but some of these many *equivocations* are, as we think, not entirely imputable to the inaccuracy of the printer, or the negligence of the revising eye. If to negligence only we are to look for the satisfaction of our doubts, the inattention is such as (to use Mr. Levi's own words) "no human foresight could have foreseen." *Appalled, scepticism, prophable, shrewd, conjectures, seized, Osrious*, and many other frightful *errata* of this nature, are to be found within a few pages of each other.

To the praise of sincerity, such as it is, Mr. Levi is doubtless entitled. But we do not feel ourselves disposed to consider this obstinate adherence to error, as worthy of so much commendation as the cant of affected liberality would attribute to it. We think the position nearer to the truth, that "his life cannot be in the right, whose faith is in the wrong," than the contrary assertion, which has been too generally prevalent, and the consequences of which at the present hour are too sensibly felt.

"A principle like these must then be abandoned, and the advocates for sincerity must be compelled to restore this abused term to its genuine signification, and to acknowledge that it must imply honesty of mind, and the faithful use of the means of knowledge and of improvement, the desire of being instructed, humble enquiry, impartial consideration, and unprejudiced judgement."

Under the present circumstances, however, we are led to consider Mr. Levi's attack on Christianity, hostile and acrimonious as it is, with more indulgence than the scoffs, and cavils, and petulant opposition of those who were brought up and nourished in the principles of the faith which they opugn; and who even presume to call themselves Christians, while they are sapping insidiously, or by open storm assailing, the sacred bulwarks of Christianity. With a reference to these various antagonists, we will leave on the minds of our readers the words of oppressed and suffering virtue, in a similar instance, as affording a just criterion of their respective criminality.

triviality. "Behold, my son, which came forth of my bowels, seeketh my life; how much more now may this Benjamite do it? Let him alone, and let him curse!" 2 Samuel xvi. ii.

ART. IX. *Essays on the Microscope, containing a practical Description of the most improved Microscopes; a general History of Insects; their Transformations, peculiar Habits, and Oeconomy; with an Account of the various Species of Hydræ, Vorticellæ, &c. a Description of Three Hundred Animalculæ, &c. &c. illustrated with Thirty-Two Folio Plates. By the late George Adams, Mathematical Instrument-Maker to his Majesty. The Second Edition, with considerable Additions and Improvements, by Frederick Kammacher, F. L. S. 4to. 724 pp. with a Volume of Plates. 2l. 8s. Dillon and Keating, London. 1798.*

THE microscope, one of the most interesting inventions of the last century, opens to our view an otherwise invisible world, with which the ancients were entirely unacquainted. So truly great and rational is the entertainment and instruction it affords, that it is no wonder opticians should have exerted all their ingenuity in varying the construction of the instrument, and giving it every advantage which human art could devise, in order to produce its full effect, and convey the greatest satisfaction to the observer.

The first invented microscopes were all single ones, consisting merely of a small convex lens, differently mounted according to the fancy of the preparer; and to this structure, improved by the assiduity of the Lyncean Leewenhoek, we owe by far the greater part of the curious microscopical observations of the preceding century. Leewenhoek ground his glasses with uncommon dexterity; they were all double convex lenses; which it is the more necessary to mention here, since we recollect, that the Abbe la Pluche, in his excellent work, the *Spectacle de la Nature*, has erroneously stated them to have been small globules of blown glass instead of lenses. Their magnifying powers fell short of many which are prepared by our modern artists, but were fully sufficient to investigate many minutiae of nature with clearness and precision. Leewenhoek, at his death, bequeathed his cabinet of microscopes, consisting of twenty-six, mounted in silver, and prepared by his own hand, to the

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Royal Society of London, as a tribute of respect to that illustrious body, who had so long been the receivers and publishers of his communications. These microscopes have been described in the *Philosophical Transactions*, by Martin Folkes, President of the Royal Society; and also by Mr. Henry Baker, in his work, entitled *Employment for the Microscope*; in which book may be found a figure representing their general structure.

The single microscope has undergone various successive improvements, according to the adroitness of optical artists, in different parts of Europe; the English however have always claimed a decided pre-eminence.

Among compound microscopes, the comparatively awkward and cumbrous contrivances of the last century, are now known only from specimens deposited in museums; and have long since been superseded by the more elegant and infinitely more convenient instruments, constructed by modern artists. The three-pillared microscope, as it is commonly called, was about the year 1745 improved in its structure by Mr. Cuss, an eminent optician of that time, and was the kind used by Mr. Baker, in preference to the former: this also seems to have been the microscope made use of by the celebrated Count de Buffon, whose observations terminated in his well-known extravagant and absurd theory of organized molecule, &c. Since the time of Cuss, different artists have endeavoured, and not without success, still further to improve the compound microscope. Among those who ought to be mentioned with praise on this occasion, was the late Mr. Benjamin Martin, of Fleet-street, whose improvements, as well as those of our present author's father, were of considerable utility. Mr. G. Adams himself constructed, with singular success, the instrument termed the lucernal microscope; which has been since rendered more complete by Mr. Jones, who has likewise added to the convenience of the compound microscope, which may now be considered as having attained its ultimatum of perfection.

About the year 1738, that wonderful improvement in optics, the solar microscope, was first invented by Liberkin, whose instrument however was but awkward in comparison of those which were afterwards constructed by the English opticians. To Liberkin also is owing the invention of the single opaque microscope; or a lens placed in the centre of a small concave speculum; which reflects a vivid light on an opaque object placed before it.

After thus slightly enumerating the several gradations by which the present perfection in these important instruments was obtained; we shall proceed to a survey of the present edi-

tion of Mr. Adams's work; which is rendered of considerably greater consequence than the former, and fully entitled to our notice, by the additions of the editor, Mr. Kanmacher, a member of the Linnæan Society. Mr. Adams first gives a concise account of the invention itself, and the improvements it has undergone; after which follows a chapter on vision, and the optical effects of microscopes; with their magnifying powers. This is succeeded by a description of the most improved kinds, and directions for the method of using them. The remaining parts of the work relate more especially to natural history, and particularly to those parts in which the microscope becomes most necessary; namely, those relative to the investigation of insects and animalcules; the structure of vegetables, &c. &c. Among other very curious articles, is given the anatomy of the caterpillar of the *Phalæna Cossus*, or Goat Moth, illustrated with suitable engravings: these, with the anatomy of the animal itself, are taken from the work of the celebrated Lyonet, whose patient assiduity, surpassing even that of Swammerdam himself, enabled him to discover and describe in the above-mentioned Caterpillar as many muscles, veins, and other minute parts, as those which exist in the human body. This was indeed a singular instance of philosophical perseverance, and thus far deserves our praise; but if natural history in general were pursued on a similar plan, it is evident that it would soon sink under its own weight.

After this, the author delivers the history of the Polype, with the principal species. The Polype forms a kind of epoch in natural history, and, as is well-known, caused a new series of philosophical disquisitions to take place, which terminated in the discovery of the astonishing power of re-production, possessed by several of the lower orders of the animal world, or those belonging to the division called in modern natural history by the title of *Vermes*. This property, however, is by none possessed in so striking a degree as by the Polypes, which are therefore very justly considered as some of the most wonderful of Nature's productions. In speaking of these animals, we observe a mistake of some consequence in the directions given for discovering them. In looking for them on aquatic plants, &c. Mr. Adams says, "we shall sometimes observe green protuberances on the various plants of about the size of a *pro*." This is doubtless an oversight; and a *pin's head* would have been a much more just comparison; since the green Polype, the smallest of the English species, rarely appears much larger when in its collapsed or contracted

state, though it can extend itself to three quarters of an inch in length. The green globules above-mentioned, were probably the rudiments of a conserva, which we have frequently observed in similar situations, and exactly answer to Mr. Adams's description. In page 260, there seems to be a mistake relative to the insect there mentioned, which must surely belong to the genus *Coccus*, rather than that of *Cynips*.

The *Animalcula Infusoria*, containing the various genera of those animalcules which are discoverable in fluids, form a very curious and interesting chapter in this publication. The descriptions and figures are chiefly taken from the celebrated and excellent work of Müller on that subject, with additions from Baker, and others.

The organization of timber next succeeds, illustrated by beautiful views of vegetable sections. The succeeding chapter treats on the crystallization of salts, with many particulars relative to their extraordinary configurations while under the eye of the microscopical observer. Next follows a most curious arrangement and description of minute and rare shells; with a descriptive list of vegetable seeds. This chapter is added by Mr. Kanmacher, the editor of the present edition, and contains the principal observations of Mr. Jacobs, whose researches, relative to minute shells, have eminently distinguished him; and to whom we find part of a letter addressed by Sir Joseph Banks, in commendation of his useful and accurate descriptions. The shells are illustrated by numerous figures. The seeds are chiefly from the work of Dr. Parsons, and afford a curious variety of form and structure.

The work is concluded by a series of instructions for collecting and preserving insects: this chapter is also added by the present editor, as well as the list of microscopic objects.

It now remains for us to give an extract or two for the entertainment of our readers, as well as for the purpose of giving a general idea of Mr. Adams's manner of description, &c.

"There is no human science which to a rational mind exhibits a greater variety of attractions, or which is more deserving of general esteem, than that of Natural History; accordingly we find, that from the earliest times in which the sciences have been promulgated, it has never been entirely destitute of its votaries; but, on the contrary, has for ages employed the lives of many learned men as being, in fact, the study of Divine Wisdom displayed in the creation: the farther our researches are carried, the more striking proofs of it every where abound. In the present century, an era particularly devoted to investigation, and propitious to discovery and improvement in various branches of science, Natural History, so far from being neglected, has been more generally cultivated, and pursued with an ardor unprecedented at any former period. Men of the first rank in literature have become

become indefatigable labourers in the vast and unbounded field which it presents to the eyes of an accurate and attentive observer. The animal, the vegetable, and the mineral kingdoms, have been examined with the utmost care; that confusion and perplexity which seemed unavoidably to result from a view of the immense variety of articles contained in each of those departments, and which frequently deterred persons from engaging in the pursuit, have been in a great measure removed by the introduction of systematic arrangement; by these means, the various subjects are distributed into classes and genera, enabling us to form distinct and comprehensive ideas of them. To the same methodical plan, and the nicety of discrimination thence arising, we must attribute the discovery and description of many new species: this has excited an emulation still farther to pursue the enquiry, nor need any apprehension be entertained that the subject will be exhausted, as, no doubt, an infinite variety still remains unexplored to engage the utmost attention of the philosophic mind, and fully to compensate the pains bestowed on so interesting a branch of knowledge.

"Of the abundance of articles enumerated in books of Natural History, there are comparatively few, whose uses are as yet known, or their properties fully understood. The true naturalist should always bear in mind that there is a vast difference between retaining the names, and investigating the nature and peculiar qualities of the creatures to which they belong. It is highly proper, indeed necessary, that the multifarious objects of Natural History should be well ascertained and distinguished with nicety in all their varieties; the science and admirers of it are, therefore, unquestionably indebted to the able naturalists who have devoted their time, and exercised their ingenuity in devising commodious methods of arrangement, and invented systems for identifying the several subjects with accuracy, and less danger of fallacy or mistake: but all who are, or would wish to be thought naturalists, ought to consider, that the best possible mode of classification is, after all, but an introduction to Natural History. The ingenious and indefatigable Linnæus, who spent his life in fabricating the curious system now generally adopted, intended it certainly for the improvement of the science, as a basis for the service of knowledge and the benefit of mankind; let us be cautious not to mistake the means for the end, but in the prosecution of the science, think of the true ends of knowledge, and endeavour to promote our own instruction, and the advancement of others, with a view to the adoration of that Divine Being to whom all creation is indebted for existence, and their application to the occasions and uses of life, all along conducting and perfecting the study in the spirit of benevolence,

"The study of nature, or in other words, a serious contemplation of the works of God, is indeed a great and proper object for the exercise of our rational faculties; nor can we perhaps employ them better, than in endeavouring to make ourselves acquainted with the works of that glorious Being from whom they were received." P. 167.

The description of the attacks of the ichneumon fly is particularly curious.

"Neither the larva, pupa, or even the egg-state of some insects are exempt from the attacks of others, who deposit their eggs in them; these,

these, after having passed through the usual transformations, become what is termed the ichneumon fly. The following are the curious observations of an ingenious naturalist on this fly. "As I was observing," says he, "one day some caterpillars which were feeding voluptuously on a cabbage leaf, my attention was attracted to part of the plant, about which a little fly was buzzing on its wing, as if deliberating where to settle: I was surprized to see the herd of caterpillars, creatures of twenty times its size, endeavouring in an uncouth manner, by various contortions of the body to get out of its way, and more so whenever the fly poised on the wing as if going to drop; at length the creature made its choice, and seated itself on the back of one of the largest and fairest of the cluster; it was in vain the unhappy reptile endeavoured to dislodge the enemy. If the caterpillar had shewn terror on the approach of the fly, its anguish at intervals now seemed intolerable, and I soon found that it was in consequence of the strokes or wounds given by the fly. At every wound the poor caterpillar wretched and twisted its whole frame, endeavouring to disengage itself, by shaking off the enemy, sometimes aiming its mouth towards the place; but it was all in vain, its little, but cruel tormentor kept its place. When it had inflicted thirty or forty of these wounds, it took its flight with a visible triumph; in each of these wounds the little fly had deposited an egg. I took the caterpillar home with me, to observe the progress of the eggs which were thus placed in its body, taking care to give it a fresh supply of leaves from time to time; it recovered to all appearance in a few hours from the wounds it had received, and from that time, for the space of four or five days, seemed to feed with its usual avidity. The eggs were all hatched into small oblong voracious worms, which fed from the moment of their appearance on the flesh of the caterpillar, in whose body they were inclosed, and seemingly without wounding the organs of respiration or digestion; and when they had arrived at their full growth, they eat their way out of the sides of the animal, at the same time destroying it. The caterpillar thus attacked by the larva of the ichneumon never escapes, its destruction is infallible; but then its life is not taken away at once; the larva, while it is feeding thereon knows how to spare the parts which are essential to its life, because its own is at that time tied up in that of the caterpillar. No butterfly is produced from it; the worms that feed on the wretched creature, are no sooner out of its body, than every one spins its own web, and under this they pass the state of rest necessary to introduce them to their winged form. To treat of each species of the ichneumon would alone fill a volume; Linnæus enumerates no less than seventy-seven of them,

"Of this strange scene it is difficult for us to form a proper judgment; we are unacquainted with the organs of the caterpillar, ignorant of the nature of its sensations, and therefore we cannot be assured what may be the effects of that which we see it suffer. "It is wisdom to suppose we are ignorant, while we know the Creator cannot be cruel." From revelation we learn, that man is the mean through which life is conveyed to the creatures of this lower world; that by sinking into error, and fostering evil, he perverts his own life, and corrupts

corrupts all that which proceeds from him, so that the effects are the same on the orders beneath him, as would arise to the world if a continual cloud was placed between us and the sun, depriving us at once of the salutary effects of its invigorating heat and cheering light. Hence there is in this degraded world an obscure and melancholy shade cast over all the beauties of creation.

"Lastly, the number of insects which feed upon others, nay, some even upon their own species, is very great: it is among these that we find the traces of the greatest art and cunning as well in attack as defence; some indeed use main force alone. Most persons are acquainted with the dexterous arts of the spider, the curious construction of the web he spins, and the central position he takes, in order to watch more effectually the least motion that may be communicated to its tender net. Those who wish to pursue this subject further, will find ample satisfaction by consulting the works of Reaumur and De Geer." P. 295.

But the most extraordinary field for speculation is displayed in the microscopical genera.

"The smallest living creatures our instruments can shew, are those that inhabit the waters; for, though possibly animalcula equally minute, or perhaps more so, may fly in the air, or creep upon the earth, it is scarce possible to obtain a view of them; whereas, water being transparent, and confining the creatures within it, we are enabled, by applying a drop of it to our glasses, to discover with ease a great part of its contents, and in a space barely visible to the naked eye, often perceive a thousand little creatures, all full of life and vigour.

"By the animalcula infusoria are meant, not the larvæ of those insects which in their first state are inhabitants of water, and afterwards become winged insects, as the gnat, &c. Baker, and many other writers on the subject, have often confounded these, and hence entered into a train of reasoning contrary to fact and experience. The animalcula infusoria take their name from their being found in all kinds either of vegetable or animal infusions; if seeds, herbs, or other vegetable substances, be infused in water, it will soon be filled with an indefinite number of these minute beings. There is a prodigious variety in their forms; some perfectly resemble the bell polype; others are round or oblong, without any, at least apparent, members; some resemble a bulb with a long taper tail; some are nearly spherical; the greater part are vesicular and transparent. Those most generally found in every drop of ditch water are mere inflated bladders, with a small trace of intestines in the center; the next are a flat kind, with a number of legs under the belly.

"Motion seems to be their great delight, they pervade with equal ease and rapidity, and in all forms and directions, the whole dimensions of the drop, in which they find ample space for their various progressions, sometimes darting straight forward, at other times moving obliquely, then again circularly: they know how to avoid with dexterity any obstacles that might obstruct their progress. Hundreds may be seen in a drop of water, in constant action, yet never striking against each other. If at any time the clusters prove so thick as to impede any of their motions, they roll and tumble themselves over head, creep under

under the whole range, force their way through the midst, or wheel round the cluster, with surprising swiftness; sometimes they will suddenly change the direction in which they are moving, and take one diametrically opposite thereto. By inclining the glass on which the drop of water is laid, it may be made to move in any direction; the animalcula in the drop will swim as easily against the stream as with it.

"If the water begin to evaporate, and the drop to grow smaller, they flock impetuously towards the remaining part of the fluid; an anxious desire of attaining this momentary respite of life is very visible, as well as an uncommon agitation of the organs by which they imbibe the water. These motions grow more languid as the water fails, till at last they entirely cease.

"Animalcula and insects will support a great degree of cold, but both one and the other perish when it is carried beyond a certain point. The same degree of heat that destroys the existence of insects, is fatal to animalcula; as there are animalcula produced in water at the freezing point, so there are insects which live in snow.

"If the smallest drop of urine be put into a drop of water where these animalcula are roving about, apparently happy and easy, they instantly fly to the other side, but the acid soon communicating itself to this part, their struggles to escape are increased, but the evil also increasing, they are thrown into convulsions, and soon expire.

"Among animalcula, as in every other part of nature, there is constantly a certain proportion preserved between the size of the individuals and their number. There are always fewest amongst the larger kinds, but they increase in number as they diminish in size, till of the last, or lowest to which our powers of magnifying will reach, there are myriads to one of the larger. Like other animals, they increase in size from their birth till they have attained their full growth. When deprived of food, they grow thin and perish; and different degrees of organization are to be discovered in their structure.

"The birth and propagation of these microscopic beings is as regular as that of the largest animals of our globe; for though their extreme minuteness prevents us, in most cases, from seeing the germ from which they spring, yet we are well assured, from numerous observations, that the manner in which they multiply is regulated by constant and invariable laws.

"It has been shewn that different species of the hydra and vorticellæ multiply and increase by natural divisions and subdivisions of the parent's body; this manner of propagation is very common among the animalcula in infusions, though with many remarkable varieties. Some multiply by a transverse division, a contraction takes place in the middle, forming a kind of neck that becomes smaller every instant, till they are enabled by a slight degree of motion to separate from each other. These animalcula in general studiously avoid each other; but when they are in the labour of multiplication, and the division is in great forwardness, it is not uncommon to see one of them precipitate itself on the neck of the dividing animalculum, and thus accelerate the separation.

"Another species, when it is on the point of multiplying, fixes itself to the bottom of the infusion; it then forms an oblong figure, afterwards becomes round, and begins to turn rapidly, as if upon an internal

internal center, continually changing the direction of its rotatory motion; after some time, we may perceive two lines on the spherule, forming a kind of cross; soon after which the animalculum divides into four distinct beings, which grow, and are again subdivided.

"Some multiply by a longitudinal division, which in one kind begins in the fore-part, and others in the hind-part; from another kind a small fragment is seen to detach itself, which very soon acquires the form of the parent animalculum. Lastly, some propagate in the same manner as those we deem more perfect animals.

"From what has been said, it appears clearly that their motions are not purely mechanical, but are produced by an internal spontaneous principle, and that they must therefore be placed among the class of living animals, for they possess the strongest marks, and the most decided characters of animation; and consequently, that there is no foundation for the supposition of a chaotic and neutral kingdom, which can only have derived its origin from a very transient and superficial view of these animalcula.

"It may also be further observed, that as we see the motions of the limbs, &c. of the more noble animals, viz. the human species, are produced by the mechanical construction of the body and the action of the soul thereon, and are forced by the ocular demonstration arising from anatomical dissection, to acknowledge this mechanism which is adapted to produce the various motions necessary to the animal; and as when we have recourse to the microscope, we find those pieces which had appeared to the naked eye as the primary mechanical causes of the particular motions, to consist themselves of lesser parts, which are the causes of motion, extension, &c. in the larger; when the structure can therefore be traced no further by the eye or glasses, we have no right to conclude, that the parts which are invisible, are not equally the subject of mechanism: for this would be only to assert in other words, that a thing may exist because we see and feel it, and has no existence when it is not the object of our senses.

"The same train of reasoning may be applied to microscopic insects and animalcula; we see them move, but because the muscles and members which occasion these motions are invisible, shall we infer that they have not muscles, with organs appropriated to the motion of the whole and its parts? To say that they exist not, because we cannot perceive them, would surely not be a rational conclusion. Our senses are indeed given us, that we may comprehend some effects; but then we have also a mind with reason bestowed upon us, that from the things which we do perceive with our senses, we may deduce the nature of those causes and effects which are imperceptible to the corporal eye.

"Messrs. Buffon, Needham, and Baron Münchhausen, have considered this part of animated nature in so different a light from other writers, that we cannot with propriety entirely pass them over. Needham imagined that there was a vegetative force in every microscopical point of water, and every visible filament of which the whole vegetative texture consists; that the several species of microscopic animals may subside, resolve again into gelatinous filaments, and again give lesser animals, and so on, till they can be no further pursued by glasses.

glasses. That agreeable to this idea, every animal or vegetable substance advances as fast as it can in its revolution, to return by a slow descent to one common principle, whence its atoms may return again, and ascend to a new life. That notwithstanding this, the specific seed of one animal can never give another of a different species, on account of the preparation it must receive to constitute it this specific seed.

“ Buffon asserts, that what have been called spermatic animals, are not creatures really possessing life, but something proper to compose a living creature, distinguishing them by the name of organic particles, and that the moving bodies which are to be found in the infusions either of animal or vegetable substances, are of the same nature.

“ Baron Münchhausen supposed that the seeds of mushrooms were first animals, and then vegetables; and this, because he had observed some of the globules in the infusions of mushrooms, after moving some time, to begin to vegetate.

“ It might be sufficient in the first instance to observe, that Messrs. Needham and Buffon, by having recourse to a vegetative force and organic particles, to account for the existence, and explain the nature of animalcula, and the difficulties of generation, have substituted words in the place of things; and that we are no gainers by the substitution, unless they explain the nature of these powers. But to this we may add, that all those who have examined the subject with accuracy and attention, as Bonnet, De Saussure, Baker, Wriberg, Spallanzani, Haller, Ellis, Müller, Ledermüller, Corti, Rosredi, &c. disagree with the foregoing gentlemen, proving that they had deceived themselves by inaccurate experiments, and that one of them, Buffon, had not seen the spermatic animals he supposed himself to be describing; inasmuch that Needham was at last induced to give up his favourite hypothesis.

“ Though we can by no means pretend to account for the appearance of most animalcula, yet we cannot help observing, that our ignorance of the cause of any phenomenon is no argument against its existence. Though we are not, for instance, able to account in a satisfactory manner for the origin of the native Americans, yet we suppose Buffon himself would reckon it absurd to maintain, that the Spaniards on their arrival there found only *organic particles* moving about in disorder. The case is the very same with the eels in paste, to whose animation he objects. They are exceedingly small in comparison with us; but, with the solar microscope, Baker has made them assume a more respectable appearance, so as to have a diameter of an inch and an half, and a proportionable length. They swam up and down very briskly; the motion of their intestines was very visible; when the water dried up they died with apparent agonies, and their mouths opened very wide. Now, were we to find a creature of the size of this magnified eel gaping in a place where water had lately been, we certainly should never conclude it to be merely an *organic particle*, or fortuitous assemblage of them, but a fish. Why then should we conclude otherwise with regard to the eel in its natural state, than that it is a little fish? in reasoning on this subject, we ought ever to remember, that however essential the distinction of bodies into great and small may appear

appear to us, they are not so to the Deity, with whom, as Baker well expresses himself, "an atom is a world, and a world but as an atom." Were the Deity to exert his power a little, and give a natural philosopher a view of a quantity of paste filled with eels, from each of whose bodies the light was reflected as in the solar microscope; our philosopher, instead of imagining them to be ~~many~~ organic particles, as the paste would appear like a little mountain, he would probably look upon the whole as an assemblage of serpents, and be afraid to come near them. Whenever, therefore, we discover beings to appearance endued with a principle of self-preservation, or whatever we make the characteristic of animals, neither the smallness of their size, nor the impossibility of our knowing how they came there, ought to cause us to doubt of their being animated." P. 416.

The principal additions to the present edition of this valuable work, are,

1. Accounts of the latest Improvements which have been made in the Construction of Microscopes, and particularly the Lucernal.
2. A Description of the Glass, Pearl, &c. Micrometers, as made by Mr. Coventry and others.
3. An Arrangement and Description of minute and rare Shells.
4. A descriptive List of a Variety of vegetable Seeds.
5. Instructions for collecting and preserving Insects, together with Directions for forming a Cabinet.
6. A copious List of Objects for the Microscope.
7. A List of Mr. Cusance's vegetable Cuttings.

The new Plates are, pl. 4, showing the most improved Compound Microscopes and Apparatus. Pl. 14. Microscopical figures of minute and rare Shells. Pl. 15. Variety of vegetable Seeds.

We cannot dismiss this elegant and truly valuable work without our highest commendation. It undoubtedly stands unrivalled as a general and particular history of the Microscope and its principal objects; and reflects the highest credit both on the author and editor.

ART. X. *The Works of Tobias Smollet, M. D. With Memoirs of his Life; to which is prefixed, a View of the Commencement and Progress of Romance. By John Moore, M. D. In Eight Volumes. 8vo. 3l. 4s. Law, Johnson, &c. London. 1797.*

TO collect the works of a deceased author in an uniform and handsome edition, with some account of his life, and other appropriate illustrations, is a tribute due to a certain rank

rank of merit, which the public usually receives with pleasure and supports with liberality. That Dr. Smollet well deserved this distinction, few inhabitants of Great Britain can without ingratitude deny : since there are few, if any, who have not been amused and delighted by some or all of his productions. As an able predecessor, in the honourable walk of Criticism, we owe him an additional respect, which we are fully inclined to pay, by welcoming this edition, and bestowing on the design and execution of it a just degree of commendation.

To the collective body of the most respectable booksellers in London, men well able to estimate the wishes of the public in such matters, we seem to be indebted for this work ; and their application to Dr. Moore, a writer connected with Dr. Smollet by personal acquaintance, by similarity of studies, and some accidental relations, as one of the fittest persons to supply the Life, and other preliminary matter, appears no less judicious than the design itself. How both parties have executed their respective tasks it is our business to declare.

The form of the edition is handsome ; and it is printed not only well but fairly, with an apparent view rather to compress it within a moderate compass, than to amplify it by any customary modes of extension. The edition contains only the principal works of the author ; and no attempt has been made to render it complete, by ascertaining and inserting what he wrote in reviews and other periodical productions, which would have been attended with more difficulty than advantage, and would perhaps have proved, as to any approach to perfect exactness, impracticable. His continuation of the History of England, a work in some respects not unworthy of him, but certainly not calculated to be classed with the children of his imagination, is also omitted. The rest of his works are distributed through these eight volumes in the following order, which, with respect to the novels, is chronological. 1. The Regicide, a Tragedy, written at the age of eighteen ; the Reprisal, a Comedy, or rather a Farce. Miscellaneous Poems. In this collection three Songs, taken from various parts of his works, which conclude the poems as given by Dr. Anderson, are omitted ; probably because they stand in their proper places in the works. 2. Roderick Random. 3. 4. Peregrine Pickle. 5. Count Fathom. 6. Sir Launcelot Greaves, and the Adventures of an Atom. 7. Humphrey Clinker. 8. Travels. So much for the part performed by the booksellers. On the works themselves it must be superfluous at this time to remark ; and we proceed therefore to the new matter supplied by Dr. Moore.

“ Before we enter into any account of the life and writings of Dr. Smollet, it is thought proper,” says this author, “ to present

present the reader with a sketch of those variations of manners in Europe which gave rise to that particular species of writing for which he was so much distinguished." Dr. Moore was doubtless desirous to draw up such an historical view, and therefore executed it from the best materials he could collect; but in our opinion it is little more necessary to give a history of tales, invented for amusement, than of eating or sleeping. Wherever men exist, they will delight in such sportive imitations of history and biography, which will take their complexion from the customs and manners of the times wherein they are produced, and will grow more elegant and artificial as civilization proceeds, and the art of writing is improved. The Doctor begins from the Romans in Britain; but he might with more propriety have begun from the Greeks in their own country; since the Theagenes and Chariclea of Heliodorus, the Chærea and Callirrhoe of Chariton, and other Greek tales of that class, are much more similar to modern novels than any thing produced in England, between the time of Cæsar and the present century. Nor is the progress of manners in England particularly important to the subject, since romances and novels did not originate here more than in other parts of Europe, but followed every where the general progress of manners. The account of the Saxons therefore, and the establishment of the feudal system in this country seems very little demanded by the subject. The fictitious histories produced in Europe followed the manners of Europe; when men delighted in chivalry, and believed in enchantments, they were full of knights-errant and enchanters: when taste grew more refined, and judgment more sceptical, they were formed in imitation of real life, for the delineation of passions and characters, such as might combine probability with interest. The Arabians also had their tales and novels (as they might be called) and it is probable that, wherever men can write, fictitious histories will be formed for purposes of the same kind. If these compositions have been more multiplied and refined in modern Europe than in any other place, the cause appears to be, that the luxury of idle reading is a new gratification, arising out of the art of printing, and the facility it has bestowed of multiplying books.

Through many pages Dr. Moore pursues the history of the Gothic institutions and of the crusades, topics which, though he handles them well, cannot now possess the attraction of novelty, having been treated in various ways by many modern writers. When he comes to the Troubadours, he enlivens his account with a few select anecdotes of some of the most famous among them. But if this chain of history was necessary,

cessary, which to us it does not appear, we cannot but remark, with some surprise, his total-silence respecting the *Trouveurs* of the north of France; a set of fabulists now known to be far more eminent than their southern brethren for many striking proofs of genius and invention. The account of these, which he might have found at large in the Prefaces of Le Grand to his publication of their *Fabliaux*, and abbreviated in the elegant preface of Mr. Ellis to Mr. Way's poetical version of them, certainly deserved a place here, at least as well as the chief part of those circumstances which form the substance of the essay. This observation will be found to have the more force when it is considered, that the Romance was the very species of writing in which the *Troubadours* did not shine. "I know," says Le Grand, "only four Romances belonging to the *Troubadours*;" and after wondering at this barrenness in them, he concludes; "after this we must be tempted to ask if the Provençal Poets were not destitute of Epic heads*." Pursuing the same argument in another Preface, he says, "How has it happened, that among so many fine things," supposed to be produced by these poets, "there remain only some dismal *Sirventes* (or satires) and love-songs still more dismal†!" The tales of the *Trouveurs*, on the other hand, which were all in verse, are prodigiously numerous, and abounding in imagination, and a variety of adventures, many of which have been copied by the best fabulists of later times.

The latter part of this Essay is more satisfactory. The author derives, not without some appearance of reason, the modern novel from the example of Cervantes; and characterizes some of the principal novelists of France and England with great spirit and sagacity. The whole is, in point of composition, worthy of the writer's character. But though the history of the early ages does not appear quite necessary to the design of tracing the progress of Romance, it furnished the author with a few opportunities, which he seems eager to find or fancy, for inserting caustic reflections on modern times or customs. Of these, however, some are unjust, and almost all unnecessary. The following passage, which occurs early in the view of Romance, is one of the strangest that we have seen for some time.

"Much has been said and written of late to show the ill effects of liberty; not surely in the intention of disgusting the inhabitants of this island with that which has been one great basis of their prosperity, and

* T. i. p. xl. † T. ii. p. xxi. ‡ He should have added *Tenfour*, or *pleas* for the courts of love. See a still stronger passage, T. i. p. li.

has so long rendered them the envy of surrounding nations; but merely, it is hoped, with a view to prevent the abuse of freedom, which like the abuse of every thing else that is estimable in life, becomes pernicious in proportion to the value of the thing abused." *P. ix.*

Where has any thing been said or written against Liberty? For what may have been said indeed we cannot answer; but since all that has been published within these five years has fallen under our eye, we can vouch for it, that the assertion about writing is totally unfounded. Against that tremendous, though base species of despotism, under which the French have fallen in their pursuit of liberty; and against that intolerable yoke, which under the false and insulting pretence of liberty, they would force upon all Europe, much has certainly been said and written. But it has been for the avowed and evident purpose, of attaching the inhabitants of this island yet more strongly to that genuine liberty, "which has been one great basis of their prosperity, and has so long rendered them the envy of surrounding nations." It has been by the utter contempt and abhorrence of slavery, that these patriotic tongues and pens have been actuated. They have uttered the sentiments of men, who would perish sooner than forego their birthright of liberty; and disdain to crouch to any nation upon earth, for the sake of being enshrined to what they please to call by the contradictory name of Freedom. This the Doctor cannot but know; yet his insinuation means nothing, or it means to cast an odium upon these very efforts. This was too glaring to be overlooked; other sentences of a similar tendency occur now and then, but they are less marked, and by no means worth pursuing.

The Life of Smollet is agreeably written. It is not very long since we noticed a life of him written by Dr. Anderson^a. That life, we are told, was composed for an edition of Smollet's works, published in Scotland, which we have not seen. The present account is more elaborate, and contains some few materials drawn from the personal knowledge of Dr. Moore, which of course are peculiar to it. The censure of Smollet's travels, inserted by Sterne in his *Sentimental Journey*, having occasioned that production to be universally condemned without examination, we will insert, as a short specimen of this life, what his biographer very properly advances in alleviation of the objection.

^a *Brit. Crit.* vol. ix, p. 333.

^b When

"When a man writes in low spirits, bad health, and ill-humour, there is little probability that he will put his readers in high spirits or good humour. All the time Dr. Smollett passed abroad, on this occasion*, he seems to have been under the influence of bodily pain, and to have viewed objects through the medium of disappointment and indignation."—"It would unquestionably have been fortunate for Smollett had he been able to bear disease as cheerily as Sterne, who never allowed it to tinge the objects which came in his way, either with *sable* or with *sickly green*, and who, as he himself describes it, danced with Death a merrier dance than any of those painted by Holben, or than any other person ever had with such a partner. When Death knocked at his door in London, Yorick flew to the banks of the Garonne, and although the frightful spectre was clattering at his heels, this fellow of *infinite jest*, and *most excellent fancy*, preserved his good-humour and pleasantry the whole way, as completely as the gayest of the gay inhabitants of the country through which he passed.

"Perhaps Sterne would have spared his satire in the instance above alluded to, if he had been impressed, as he ought, with the recollection, that Smollett had not only distemper to give a more *sombre*, and less pleasant cast than usual to his Letters, but his mind was also depressed with sorrow on account of the loss of a beloved daughter.

"But although he did not trip along as gaily as Sterne did when Death was at his heels, yet he feared him as little, and met him at last, [at] no distant date, with as much composure as any man ever did.

"In Smollett's Letters from France and Italy, however, there are many excellent and uncommon observations, and on their first publication they pleased in general, notwithstanding the cynical style in which they are written; and they pleased some on that very account. But after Sterne's sarcasm appeared, many who had admired and praised them before, now condemned them as devoid of taste; and some who had relished them on account of their high-coloured painting of certain customs among the French and Italians, now censured them as illiberal and full of national reflections.

"It often happens that a single sentence from a man of wit, throws a ridicule upon a respectable individual, or injures a book more effectually than a long serious treatise written expressly against them." P. clxxii.

The concluding sentence of this extract is just and sagacious, but it is followed in the book by one which is in no small degree *cynical*; and seems to argue, that the author wrote it "under the influence of bodily pain," or smarting under the neglect of some exalted person who should have been, according to his estimation, attracted to his society by his wit. The remarks of Dr. Moore on the writings of Smollett, are in general valuable. We think indeed that he, with many others,

* The death of his only daughter.

rates too highly the merit of "Mourn, hapless Caledonia, mourn;" but to his Ode to Independence, too much commendation cannot easily be given. It establishes him a poet. The Tears of Scotland are a feeble species of Lyric, the effect of which is certainly not heightened by the recollection that the prosperity of that country was effectually secured by the victory there lamented. The sixth stanza, however, is of high poetical merit. In quoting one passage from his author, Dr. Moore has inadvertently altered it to bad grammar. Speaking of Leven water, he says,

Pure stream, in whose transparent wave
His youthful limbs were wont to lave. P. c.

Love is an active verb, and Smollett wrote, "My youthful limbs I *went* to lave," for, "I was wont;" which is strictly correct. But it is time to take our leave both of the author and his biographer.

ART. XI. *The Crisis, or the British Muse to the British Minister and Nation. By the Author of Indian Antiquities.* 4to. 2s. 6d. Faulder. 1798.

MR. MAURICE, of whose poetical abilities the public have already had many excellent proofs, has snatched a few hours from his severer studies, on an occasion which justifies his zeal. We trust that few of our readers will be satisfied without perusing the whole of a poem, written with the energy and spirit of an Englishman, glowing with genuine and patriotic ardour. It opens with the following exordium.

"Oh! Thou, whose laurels through each circling year,
As long as Time rolls on his vast career,
While public Virtue fires th' admiring soul,
Or Genius awes it with her strong controul,
Shall brighter bloom,—Britannia's early pride,
Whose talents chatm her, and whose counsels guide;—
If the dark storms, that still o'er Europe lower,
For letter'd ease allow one transient hour;
If yet thy soul the heav'n-born Muse delight,
Sublime, of potent voice, and eagle flight;
When, fir'd in virtue's cause, she pours along
The thund'ring torrent of Tytæan song:
Immortal Son of an immortal Sire,
To Thee that Muse awakes the patriot lyre.

F

For

For others let the fragrant incense burn,
 Wasted from adulation's flaming urn;
 Unaw'd by menaces, unwarp'd by praise,
 Proud sterling Virtue seeks no borrow'd bays;
 While Genius, tow'ring on its throne of light,
 Shines in its own transcendent lustre bright;
 The flame it feels through kindred bosoms spreads,
 And wide the intellectual radiance sheds:
 As yon bright orb that lights the distant pole,
 And warms the glitt'ring spheres that round it roll,
 Exhaustless, flames with undiminish'd beam,
 Nor misses from its fount th' immortal stream.

Glowing in youth with freedom's holy fire,
 Arm'd with the spirit of thy dauntless fire,
 Exulting Britain call'd thee to the helm,
 And hail'd thee Guardian of the sinking realm.
 Taught thee to grasp the bolt that father hurl'd,
 Her own dread bolt that awes the subject world;
 At the fierce Gaul th' avenging shaft to aim,
 And blast her foes with its devouring flame.
 When o'er her late the black'ning tempest spread,
 Threat'ning to burst on her devoted head;
 When Faction wav'd on high her flaming brand,
 And lawless Uproar rag'd around the land;
 While ruffian bands combin'd to trample down
 Her ruin'd altars and her plunder'd crown;
 In that dread CRISIS of her darkest hour,
 How nobly did thy daring genius tow'r!
 Well skill'd Britannia's stately bark to guide,
 Thou steer'd'st her safely through the boist'rous tide,
 The madness of the raging billows brav'd,
 And with thy pow'rful arm AN EMPIRE SAV'D:
 Firm as the rocks that gird her sea-beat shore,
 While round their base the deaf'ning surges roar." P. 9.

A short account of the publication is given by the author himself, in an advertisement prefixed.

"The following verses were written, without much attention to method, during the short intervals allowed from more laborious and important studies. They breathe, it is presumed, the sentiments and language of every reflecting indignant Briton at this awful CRISIS! The adoption by the successive rulers of France of a system of government marked by more atrocious outrages against society than ever disgraced the reign of the most sanguinary tyrant of Asia, under the specious pretence of diffusing the principles of LIBERTY among mankind, appeared to the author to demand that decided language of reprobation, which, in the subsequent pages, is by no means less sincerely bestowed than it is richly merited by those who provoked it." P. 11.

The poem is, with good effect, divided into periods, by the occasional repetition of these two masculine couplets.

Britons,

Britons, the *CRISIS* of your fate draws near,
Exalt your standards, grasp th' avenging spear :
In radiant arms indissolubly join'd,
Be firm, and brave the pow'rs of earth combin'd.

A very spirited, and in some degree a novel effect, is produced by the recurrence of these lines, which in the close are a little altered, as exhorting our countrymen to attack as well as resistance. We cannot deny ourselves the pleasure of selecting one more passage from this very animated composition.

" Ye myriads, whom her direful thirst of blood
Plung'd in the rapid Rhone's empurpled flood,
Or from the cannon's sending mouth consign'd,
In mangled fragments, to the blasting wind ;
All whom dire Roberfpierre's unsparing rage
Crush'd in the blooming vigour of your age ;
Or, by succeeding Molochs dragg'd to death,
Who, deep in dungeons, drank infection's breath !
All who by hunger's pangs, to madness fir'd,
On your own sabre's guiltless edge expir'd ;
Or, to avoid unnumber'd horrors, quaff'd,
With pale and quiv'ring lips, th' empoison'd draught ;
Shout from the grave—in your, in Nature's, cause,
Th' avenging sword insulted Britain draws ;
See her bright ensigns blaze from shore to shore,
See her bold offspring round those ensigns pour :
Her ancient *NOBLES*, warm with all the fires
That burn'd at Cressy in their daring fires ;
Her valiant *KNIGHTS*, whose streaming banners shew
Their blazon'd triumphs o'er the haughty foe ;
Her gen'rous *MERCHANTS*, fam'd through ev'ry clime,
Of spotless faith and dauntless soul sublime !
Whose flags, through many a distant sea unfurl'd,
Uphold the commerce of the ravag'd world ;
In social bands remotest nations join,
Chill'd at the pole, or scorch'd beneath the line ;
Patriots to virtue dear, for freedom bold,
Who *HONOUR* still their *PROUDEST TREASURE* hold ;
Her *PEASANTS*, glowing with a Briton's zeal,
Whose loyal hearts are oak, whose sinews *steel* :
All ranks, all ages, feel the high alarms,
At Glory's call, impatient, rush to arms ;
Ardent to meet a foe their souls disdain,
Conqu'rors on shore and sov'reigns on the main." P. 30.

We could, with satisfaction to ourselves, commit further depredations on these poetical pages, but our wish is to excite rather than to satiate the reader's appetite, and to send him to the source itself for the gratification which we thus withhold.

ART. XII. *A System of Dissections, explaining the Anatomy of the Human Body, the Manner of displaying the Parts, and their Varieties in Disease; with Plates. By Charles Bell. Part the First. Folio. 51 pp. 5s. 6d. Mundel, Edinburgh; Johnson, London. 1798.*

ALTHOUGH anatomy has been long cultivated with great industry and success, and we are in possession of many splendid and valuable publications on the subject, in which all the component parts of the body are delineated with elegance and fidelity, a practical guide was still wanting to instruct students in the art of dissecting, or the method necessary to be followed, to obtain those views of the different parts of the body which they see so beautifully delineated by the graver.

"What is detailed," the author of this ingenious and instructive work says, Preface, p. 1, "in elementary books of anatomy, is too often represented as comprehending the whole of the art. Yet the object of such books is not practical anatomy; by which is to be understood the real investigation and knowledge of the dissected body. The descriptions are not adapted to the limited and successive views, which, in dissection, we must have of the parts; they cannot be implicitly followed as guides; but, on the contrary, the anatomy of any part to be dissected, or of parts implicated in a great operation, must be collected from many different sources, muscles from one place, blood vessels from another, and nerves from a third. The descriptions too will be found insulated and defective in such views as can give a lively interest and knowledge of the mutual dependence of the parts. Now elementary books should give simple, introductory, and connected views; otherwise they are not only useless, but become hurtful. To study the details of anatomy, without having the parts before us, is pernicious: and a man who has, by reading only, acquired a knowledge of names, and of the derivations of nerves and arteries, without at the same time being able to put his finger upon the body, and tell what parts lie concealed, is more apt to be led astray, to hesitate and be timorous, than to be prompt and decisive in his conduct as a surgeon."

After a short introduction, in which the author gives an account of the method of injecting the vessels, previous to dissecting the body, and describes the subjects best adapted to that purpose, the method of preparing the injection, &c, he proceeds to give particular directions for dissecting the abdominal muscles. How minutely and correctly this is done, the reader will see from the following short specimen.

"In taking off the skin from the groin, you find a confused and irregular aponeurosis coming off from the abdomen, and going down upon
upon

upon the thigh, apparently made up of, or strengthened by, the close intermixture of cellular substance. At this part you find it covering the femoral artery; the inguinal glands lying without it, and the vena saphæna major sinking through it to join the femoral vein, about an inch below Poupart's ligament. You find also, where the thigh is injected, the small arteries rising perpendicularly from the great trunk, to supply these glands, and the other superficial parts. This irregular aponeurosis being in the femoral hernia matted and condensed by inflammation, forms a coat, which must be cut through before the peritoneal sac is opened."

Elegant engraved figures, to which the reader is perpetually referred, assist in making these and the subservient directions easily intelligible.

The muscles of the abdomen being removed in the order directed by the author, he then shows the mode of opening the belly; previous to which, he makes the following pertinent and judicious observations.

"As the great use of dissection is to acquire the knowledge of the parts in the living body, it is proper, before opening the belly, to read the description of the parts; to learn the boundaries of the abdomen; the situation of the diaphragm, encroaching upon the cavity of the thorax; the tract of the intestines; and the places of the more important viscera; how the liver and stomach are received within the margin of the ribs, and guarded by them; how the arch of the colon winds round under these; and how the small intestines are collected in a group under the navel. It is of importance to mark the situation of all these parts, and to conceive which would be wounded by pointed instruments pushed in various directions. A wonderful degree of accuracy will thus be acquired in those parts, which are of the greatest importance both to the physician and the surgeon."

A minute description of the stomach, intestines, and other abdominal viscera, and of the course of the nerves and blood-vessels follow, delivered in the same clear and distinct manner, and illustrated by accurate and beautiful engravings. The author next gives an account of the effects of disease on the abdominal viscera. This is a peculiarly useful part, and should be carefully attended to by the anatomist. The concluding section contains a view of the cavity of the abdomen after removing the viscera. We have not seen any prospectus of the work, and are therefore unable to say of how many parts it is intended to consist, or when the remainder may be expected; but from the value of the specimen before us, we cannot help hoping that the author may be encouraged to complete the whole, with as much speed as is consistent with the nature of the work, and of the accuracy we have noticed to prevail in this part.

BRITISH CATALOGUE.

POETRY.

ART. 13. *The Vision, a Poem; or the Union of Russia and Prussia against Poland: with other Pieces. The Effusions of a young Mind.* 8vo. 3s. Dilly. 1798.

These poems are dictated by a very amiable, and, in many instances by a very poetical spirit. We subjoin a specimen.

" ELEGY.

Go, Virgin Rose, the turf adorn
That crowns fair Laura's tomb ;
Go, e'er her silent sad abode
Unfold thy vernal bloom !

When circling hours renew again
The flowery wreaths of Spring,
When Zephyr through the clear blue sky,
Sheds odours from his wing ;

There spread thy snowy bosom wide,
Thy balmy breath disperse,
But know thou rivallest in vain
Her spotless innocence.

The snow-drop, planted o'er her dust,
Shall glad the lonely scene ;
From thence a purer white derive,
The turf a fresher green.

Bloom there, fair flowers, nor dread the storm !
The storm with me shall grieve :
E'en Winter stern, this hallow'd spot
Unhurt for her shall leave.

Ye gales of Spring, which oft around
Her roscate lips have play'd,
And captur'd in the fond embrace,
Have there your flight delay'd.

Ah, now, those sweets ye stole from thence,
That incense-breathing source,
In grateful memory of the past
Shed o'er her lifeless corse !

Har

Her blush was as the blushing dawn,
 Forth opening from the east;
 Thy bloom, sweet rose, but ill can shew
 The whiteness of her breast.

Ye birds! which charm the night's dull ear,
 With tales of faithless woe,
 O join with me your tuneful powers,
 And aid my tears to flow!

Close shrouded in the leafy grove,
 Oft have ye listen'd, mute,
 To hear the music of her voice
 And silver-sounding lute.

Though thou, sweet Nightingale, canst pour,
 The strains of sorrow best;
 Her voice was sweeter far than thine,
 But fate that voice suppress.

Oft as the shades of night return,
 I'll stretch me on her bier;
 And every ravish'd hope I'll mourn
 With many a tender tear.

Look down, bright spirit, from above!
 One pitying look bestow,
 The stroke of heaven that parted us,
 Must lay thy lover low.

Again our kindred souls shall meet;
 Fate now the with denies:
 Time shall dissolve these earthly bonds,
 And join us in the skies."

The author adds, " though these are the words of Petrarch upon the death of Laura, there is no intended imitation of his poetry; I had not read Petrarch at the time this was written."

ART. 14. *The Golden Mean, a Satire. Three Dialogues.* 8vo.
 1s. 6d. Faulder. 1798.

Happy the man, to whom propitious heaven
 The quiet lot of middling life has given.

The dialogue, as usual, is between author and friend; but, alas, not such as we have been accustomed to read, even in later times.

But 'tis a paltry, sneaking indecision,
 That Grubs call candour, that is my derision.

Again,

Would see all old men, not a tear in's eyes,
 Dead and embalm'd, had he but sold the spice.

Yet the sentiment is generally good, and the versification often better than the above specimens.

ART.

ART. 15. *Trifles of Helicon. By Charlotte and Sophia King.* 8vo. 2s. Ridgway. 1798.

Oh, precious blessings, where may I ye find. *Charlotte.*
 Oh, sleep, kind god, approach thy gentle wand. *Charlotte.*
 Dear Henry, would I lov'd not half so true. *Sophia.*
 And love devoid of hope's a hapless lot. *Sophia.*

The reader may be positively assured, that the balance is quite even between Charlotte and Sophia. We wish to add two lines which we have somewhere seen :

For immortality; if hardships plead;
 It is not theirs who write, but ours who read.

ART. 16. *Killarney, a Poem. By Joseph Atkinson, Esq.* 4to. 2s. 6d. Dilly. 1798.

This romantic and beautiful spot has often been celebrated both by Irish and English bards, and this composition has many lines more spirited and even poetical too, than the following to Lord Moira, to whom it is dedicated.

Whose proud alliance and illustrious birth,
 Are only equalled by thy private worth.

Not very unlike

Thunderbolt of war,
 Lieutenant-General to the Earl of Mar.

Perhaps the following lines are not quite compatible with English ideas of grammar.

From every grove the tell-tale echoes fly,
 Whilst hill to hill, and vale to vale reply.

So also these,

Here, gently plaintive, as the shepherd's lute,
 There the loud clarion of the horn dispute, &c. &c.

ART. 17. *Effusions of Rancy.* 8vo. 1s. 6d. Richardson. 1798.

Fine paper and good print, to which we may add, that the address to a Robin Redbreast, though on a subject so trite, is delicate and pretty.

ART. 18. *Retribution, and other Poems.* By H. Hughes. 8vo. 2s. Clarke. 1798.

These are obviously written by a youthful hand, and indeed it is so intimated in the motto, but the versification is generally easy and good; and the tale in particular of Edgar and Ermina, is exceedingly pleasing and well told. We doubt the authenticity of the anecdote of the Great Frederic, at p. 11. We have heard it related of other commanders, and probably it may not be true of any.

DRAMATIC.

DRAMATIC.

- ART. 19. *The Inquisitor, a Tragedy, in Five Acts, altered from the German. By the late James Petit Andrews, and Henry James Pye.* 8vo. 2s. 6d. Hatchard. 1798.

From the specimens we have lately perused of translations from the German dramas, we are by no means friendly to such undertakings; nevertheless, the memory of Mr. Andrews, and the name of Mr. Pye, from the amiable character of the one, and the poetical talents of the other, cannot fail to conciliate our kindest attention. The apology in form of preface, is hardly necessary for a publication altogether so interesting and so elegant.

- ART. 20. *The Mysterious Marriage; or, the Heirship of Kojaboa. A Play. In 3 Acts. By Harriet Lee.* 8vo. 88 pp. 2s. Robinson. 1798.

In the advertisement prefixed, the author asserts her claim to "originality of idea," in conjuring up a *female spectre*; and she proves it, by the circumstance of her play having been read, more than two years since, by Mr. Colman and other literary gentlemen. To us, the originality appears not worth contending for. We would interdixt the production of any *new spectre* on the stage. *This "reign of terror" is over: "incredulus odi."* In a *modern play*, ghosts cannot be tolerated: they are generally mere substitutes for good sense and good writing. We acknowledge, however, that in this play there are several passages written with taste and feeling; and this is the sort of praise to which the author seems principally to aspire. But as a whole, we cannot warmly commend it. The plot is of ordinary construction; and the principal characters are mere common-place personages; some angelical, others diabolical. The appearance of the spectre, for a moment, contributes nothing to the catastrophe; which is brought about chiefly by an incident always at hand, the stroke of a dagger. The *verses* are the worst part of the performance.

- ART. 21. *Secrets worth knowing. A Comedy, in Five Acts; as performed at the Theatre Royal Covent Garden. By Thomas Morton, Esq. Author of Columbus, &c. &c.* 8vo. 69 pp. 2s. Longman. 1798.

The prologue is most prosaically dull; the epilogue is better, but abounding with *satirical* witticisms; and the principal character in the play is so mean, and his plots so very improbable, that we should wonder (if any thing of this kind were now a matter of wonder) how any manager could accept, or any audience endure, such a tissue of absurdities.

G

NOVELS.

NOVELS.

ART. 22. *The Castle of the Rock, or Memoirs of the Elderland Family.* By the Author of *Derwent Priory*. Three Volumes. 12mo. 10s. 6d. Symonds. 1798.

The Castle of the Rock is by no means an ill-written or unenterprising performance. It begins, however, with more spirit than we find in its progress; and perhaps the character of Miss Darnly is rather overdrawn—at least the daughters of rich citizens are not frequently so introduced: and we trust but very seldom so disgraced with affectation, vanity, and vice.

ART. 23. *Isidora of Galicia. A Novel.* By Mrs. Hagil, Author of *Countess of Hennibon, Juliana Ormiston, &c. &c. &c.* In Two Volumes. 7s. Lee and Hurst. 1798.

There is somewhat more of invention in these volumes than it is often our fortune to encounter. The style also generally indicates a more experienced hand.

ART. 24. *The Irish Heiress. A Novel.* In Three Volumes. 12mo. 9s. Lane. 1798.

The interest, and incident too, of these three volumes, might have been easily comprised in one. The Heiress undergoes various difficulties and perils, has a mother who first disowns her, then condescends to live with her; is recognized by a mark on her bosom, restored to vast possessions, and dies a widow.

ART. 25. *The Stepmother, a domestic Tale from real Life.* By a Lady, 2 Vols. 12mo. 7s. Longman. 1798.

We may say of Mr. Longman's press, what cannot be said of every other from which Novels are born, that it does not send out any thing offensive to good manners or pure morals. This is no mean praise; and if we cannot commend the Stepmother for fine writing, ingenious contrivance, &c. it has at least the merit above-mentioned.

ART. 26. *Calaf, a Persian Tale.* 2 Vols. 8vo. 7s. Hookham. 1798.

An agreeable and well-told tale; though, for a Persian tale, not sufficiently Oriental.

ART. 27. *Count Donamar; or Errors of Sensibility; a Series of Letters, written in the Time of the Seven Years War.* In Three Vols. 8vo. 10s. 6d. Johnson. 1797.

A very fit piece of furniture for a brothel.

ART.

- ART. 28. *Obedience rewarded, and Prejudice conquered, or the History of Mortimer Lascelles.* By Mrs. Pilkington. 8vo. 2s. 6d. Verner and Hood. 1798.

An agreeable and simple story, exceedingly well written, and will tend both to the instruction and amusement of young people, for whose benefit it has avowedly been written. There are some very pleasing verses also to be found at p. 176. The transition, however, it must be confessed, in a young man who, from having liked the sea afterwards went to the University and became a clergyman, is abruptly introduced, and is thereby rendered somewhat improbable.

MEDICINE.

- ART. 29. *Essays on the Venereal Disease, and its concomitant Affections, illustrated by a Variety of Cases. Essay I. Part I. On the Anti-Venereal Effect of nitrous Acid, oxygenated Muriate of Potash, and several analogous Remedies, which have been lately proposed as Substitutes for Mercury.* By William Blair, A. M. Surgeon of the Lock Hospital and Asylum, and at the old Finsbury Dispensary. 8vo. pp. 252. 4s. Johnson. 1798.

In reviewing the appendix to Dr. Rollo's late publication on Diabetes Mellitus, (see Brit. Crit. vol. x. p. 258) in which he gives a collection of cases of persons supposed to have been cured of the venereal disease by nitric and other acids, we observed, that the evidence there adduced seemed to prove the efficacy of those medicines in overcoming the disease. At the same time we intimated, that such a conclusion was contrary to what we understood to have been the effect of the experience of some of the most eminent surgeons in London; and finished by expressing our hopes and expectation that some of those gentlemen would favour the world with their thoughts on the subject. We are happy in having an opportunity of laying before our readers the result of a series of experiments made by Mr. Blair, for the purpose of ascertaining the fact. The situation of this gentleman as surgeon to the Lock Hospital, afforded him opportunities superior to those of most other practitioners in surgery; and his known character for industry, ability, and integrity, give such weight to his testimony as must powerfully influence the public in the decision hereafter to be formed on this subject.

Mr. Blair details his cases in three sections. The first contains twenty-three experiments with the acid of nitre, the citric acid, and the oxygenated muriate of potash, in primary symptoms: the second, twenty-six cases of confirmed syphilis, wherein the acid of nitre was exhibited: the third, eleven trials with the oxygenated muriate of potash, in advanced stages of the lues venerea. From these experiments it appears, that although in a few instances the disease seemed for a time to remit of its violence during the exhibition of the acids, yet these favourable appearances were seldom of long duration; and

the cure was rarely, if ever, effected without having recourse to mercury.

Although the cases here recited, sixty in number, seem decisive of the inadequacy of the new medicines to cure the venereal disease in any of its stages, yet as the subject is of the utmost importance, and an opinion contrary to that which is here attempted to be established, is held by persons of respectability, Mr. Blair contents himself in this publication with relating the facts, leaving the readers to draw their conclusions. To enable them the better to do this; and to estimate the comparative weight of evidence on either side, before he relates his own experiments, he has given a summary view of the attestations that have been published in favour of the medicine, beginning with the letters from Mr. Scott, of Bombay, who first recommended them.

A careful examination of these cases, thus exhibited together, will serve better than any arguments to convince the unprejudiced reader, that the favourers of the new method have been much too sanguine in their commendations of it; as they were not warranted even from their own experiments to conclude, that the acids were capable of extirpating the disease; and yet some of them seem to have hoped, that they might in time supersede the use of mercury. It is a curious fact, that this new method, as it is called, of curing the venereal disease, is only a revival of a practice that had been long since tried. Mr. Blair cites a case from doctor Turner of a patient who had been under the care of a noted *phlogisticon* of his time. The disease was by those medicines rendered only more inveterate, and was at length cured by the use of mercury.

We have avoided transcribing any of the cases. The analysis we have given will be sufficient for such of our readers as are not of the medical profession; those who are, will not, we trust, be satisfied with any other evidence than what the book itself contains.

Mr. Blair acquaints his readers, that another collection of cases, communicated to him by several gentlemen of the highest respectability in the profession, is in the press, which will probably include, he adds, all he shall have occasion to say on the subject.

DIVINITY.

ART. 30. *A Sermon, preached at the Visitation held by the Archdeacon of Cornwall at Truro, on the 14th Day of May, 1798, by the Rev. William Gregor, A.M.* 4to. 30 pp. 1s. W. and T. Richardson.

In examining single sermons, we can seldom allow ourselves much extent of remarks, or much citation of passages. We are obliged to wrap up our account of them in some general description of praise or censure, or something between both. Yet at times we give ourselves a larger scope, when we are struck with the excellence of a particular sermon, or when we consider the contents as peculiarly proper for the times. Both these reasons unite in recommending the present sermon to the notice of our readers. We shall therefore move a little beyond our usual orbit, to lay parts of it before them.

"The grand object of the ministry of the Apostles," says this preacher, "was to found and promulgate *a new religion*, in open defiance of the power and prejudice of the world. They were called therefore to a work of difficulty and danger, which necessarily brought forward all the bold and active energies of their nature. It follows therefore, that the Christian ministry, which with the Apostles assumed a character of boldness and impetuosity, proportionate to the dangers and difficulties which opposed their progress; now that those dangers and difficulties have been removed by the establishment of Christianity, has settled down into a new channel, and flows on with a more regular and tranquil current.—The apostles were, for the most part, uneducated and illiterate men; and by being such, they served more effectually the cause of the Gospel which they preached. But we, the present ministers of Christ, in order to produce the same end, must have recourse to the aid of human learning, and make '*every kind of study pay its contribution to the oracles of God.*' As we are to travel into distant ages, and are to be conversant with languages and customs different from our own, learning must hold up her torch before us, to guide us in the right way; that we may become true and faithful guides to others.

"Our ancestors had men among them who openly attacked, or who secretly attempted to undermine the truth of Christianity; and experience has taught us, that the race is not extinct. We have had our sneerers and scoffers at religion. The modern unbeliever goes over the same ground that former unbelievers have gone before him; he seeks upon us with the same subtle plausibility, or endeavours to overwhelm our faith by the same boldness of attack. The arms which were broken in their hands, he repairs anew; and adapting them to the temper of the times, wields them with the same presumptuous confidence of victory. Contempt will not discourage the effrontery of such men, nor will repeated refutation confound them into silence; but, like some noxious weeds, they throw forth a more bold and rank luxuriance under the very foot that treads them down.

"Whilst I am recommending meekness," he says afterwards, "towards those who oppose themselves to us on religious questions; far am I from meaning that indolence of temper, or that intellectual listlessness, which slumbers over subjects the most awful and momentous. I mean not that cold indifference as to the truths or doctrines of Christianity, which would screen itself behind *plausible pretences*, and would vainly dignify itself with the name of *toleration and liberality of sentiment*. I mean not that accommodating faith, which is moulded into any form, nor that taciturnian spirit, which, like the sea, is never at rest, but at one time with *insinuating address* endeavours to fret away and undermine; or, at other times, with open violence indignantly assails that barrier, *where reason ought to end and faith begin.*"

After remarking some of the horrible features of the conspiracy of sepihists against Christianity, as exposed by M. Barruel, from their own letters, Mr. Gregor proceeds with these animated reflections.

"And what is this boasted philosophy to effect? Is it to change at once man's nature? Are its otacular decrees to sweep away all the known

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known laws of truth and evidence, as obsolete and useless? Is all testimony delusion, all history a fable? Has the world been in darkness, until this new philosophy has arisen upon it? But let us attend to the fruits of this new philosophy, for 'by its fruits it may be known.' We have heard much of universal peace, the diffusion of happiness, and the establishment of the rights of men. But where, we might ask, has there been so restless, and so insatiable an ambition, as is now exhibited to the world, diverging from that very nation which is the centre of this ILLUMINATING PHILOSOPHY? We see there an ambition, that casts away even the plausibility of the heroic virtues, and obtrudes itself upon our notice in all the deformity of subtle selfishness. When has *such* a war been carried on, and by *such* means? Instead of losing any of its horrors, it has partaken of the unrelenting savageness of barbarism.—In the general confusion and the misery of the surrounding nations, we may feel for the sufferings of mankind, and may fear for ourselves, but we cannot fear as to the ultimate event for Christianity. If we entertain any wavering or doubt on this head, we ourselves shall cease to be Christians. No! The philosopher may assail our religion; but he will assail it in vain. As soon may the poor mole, groveling in his path of darkness, overthrow an Egyptian pyramid, or a swarm of flies, rising from the corruption of a dung-hill, eclipse the sun; as that the craftiness, or the power of man, should prevail against the church of Christ."

From these extracts our readers will see and will feel for themselves the excellencies of this sermon. It is animated with an honourable zeal for the Gospel. Its sentiments are strong and manly. Its language is clear, just, and energetic. While the language, the sentiments, and the zeal, kindle at times, as we have seen, into a noble flame of oratory.

ART. 31. *The Dignity of the Ministerial Office, and the relative Duties of Minister and People. A Sermon, delivered in the Parish Church of Stoke-Newington, in the County of Middlesex, on the Sunday next after Institution, Nov. 26, 1797. By George Gaskin, D. D. Rector of that Parish, and of St. Benet, Gracechurch, in the City of London. 8vo. 32 pp. 1s. Rivingtons. 1798.*

After a service of eighteen years, as Curate of the parish of Newington, Dr. Gaskin has been advanced, very much to the honour of the patron, to the office of Rector: and he takes occasion in the opening of this discourse, and in a note, to state the circumstances of his succession, and to expatiate on the merits of his predecessor, Dr. Cook, of King's College. The remainder of the sermon explains, in a clear and very sound manner, the reciprocal duties of a Christian Pastor and his flock. In the notes, good authorities are quoted, and excellent books recommended; and the whole is truly worthy of a man sincerely and conscientiously determined to fulfil every part of the obligation he had taken upon him, and to teach others to do the same. It would be injustice not to add, that the precepts and example of such a minister as Dr. G. ought to be efficacious.

ART. 32. *Deliverance from Enemies, a Ground for Thanksgiving. A Sermon, preached on the Day of general Thanksgiving, Dec. 19, 1797, in the Chapel of the Asylum for female Orphans. By William Agutter, A. M. Chaplain and Secretary to the Asylum. 8vo. 17 pp. 6d. Rivingtons. 1798.*

To awaken the sincerity of gratitude for the deliverances we have received, Mr. Agutter gives a rapid but judicious sketch of the miseries that have been so near us, contrasted with our own internal advantages. The spirit of genuine piety pervades the whole discourse; and towards the close our excellent sovereign is most justly praised for his steady perseverance in the highest duties, and for the example which, on that day in particular, he was setting to his people. A few notes are subjoined, pointing out facts and sources of information, which are far from unimportant.

ART. 33. *Unanimity the best Defence of Religion and Civil Liberty; a Sermon, preached in the Parish Church of St. Andrew, Holborn, on Sunday, April 29, 1798, by Henry George Watkins, A. M. The second Edition, with additional Notes. 8vo. 32 pp. 1s. Rivingtons.*

This is a very respectable and useful Sermon, but it begins unfortunately; "The reasoning powers of our Saviour were wonderful." (p. 9). We do not approve of such expressions as radicals of Gospel religion; identity of Christianity (p. 13); real godliness the same identical individual thing. (p. 16).

ART. 34. *A Defence of the Old Testament, in a Series of Letters, addressed to Thomas Paine, Author of a Book, entitled "The Age of Reason," &c. By David Levi. 8vo. 208 pp. 4s. Johnson, &c. 1797.*

We see little to commend in this controversial pamphlet, but the good intention of the writer, who, with an honest warmth, and a zeal it is scarcely possible to blame, enters into a defence of an injured and calumniated people, whose early history has been so basely misrepresented by Voltaire, Paine, the junto of atheistical philosophers; and all the members of the propaganda of illuminism. We differ on so many essential points from Mr. David Levi (whom in a former article we have directly opposed) that our testimony in his favour, on the present occasion, cannot subject us to the imputation of partiality or prejudice.

Mr. Levi, after adducing, with some ability, the essential proofs of the divine mission of Moses, particularly that which resulted from God's speaking to him face to face in the presence of six thousand men besides women and children, concludes with the following just inference.

"And as it was by such extraordinary means, that they were brought to a firm belief in the mission of Moses, so hath it never been effected from the Jewish nation: for notwithstanding they fell into idolatry and other crimes, yet at no time whatever did the nation deny the divine mission of Moses, or abrogate his Laws. No, Sir; not the destruction of our government, and the consequent dispersion of

the nation; the persecutions of Heathens and Christians, and the almost universal contempt of all nations, have ever been able to root is out of our hearts. In consequence of this, the laws of Moses have been handed down to us through so many ages and revolutions, ever the same, and ever respectable; whilst nothing remains of so many forms of government of the most renowned nations, but the names of lawgivers affixed to some fragments of their laws. But this is not all; not only the Jews, but two thirds of the habitable globe revere these laws, and look upon Moses as divinely inspired. What human government ever had the like success?" R. 92. He then contrasts the fate of the Laws instituted by Lycurgus in particular, with those of Moses, and points out the divine interposition as the only assignable cause of the difference.

It is surprising that Mr. Levi, if he is himself ignorant of the rules of grammar, and the laws of orthography, should not submit his publications either before, or after, they go to his printer, to the correction of some judicious friend. The "Introductory Letter to Mr. Paine" in particular abounds with such false spellings, and false concord, as would disgrace a schoolboy of twelve years of age.

It is with the utmost pleasure that we subjoin a fact, established on the strongest evidence, and immediately connected with the subject of this work. Mr. Stone, in his Letters to Dr. Pringle, (late intercepted and published by Government, with every attestation of their authenticity) says, of France, "The people are, for the most part, well intentioned, and were there the means of information, they would probably make good Christians. Nothing is read here on these subjects, because nothing is written. We have seen nothing but Mr. Paine's Age of Reason, of which an immense edition in French was published, and not twenty copies were sold." P. 25.

ART. 35. *A Sermon, preached at Trinity Chapel, Warrington, March 7, 1798, being a Day appointed for a general Fast. By the Rev. John Woodrow, late of Catherine Hall, Cambridge. 8vo. 24 pp. is. Eyles, Warrington; Lunn, London and Cambridge. 1798.*

A spirited and judicious oration, of which the text is Isa. i. 8. 9. We shall give one short specimen of the preacher's spirit, and another of his judgment. "The enemy that shall dare to set his foot on this soil, in a hostile manner, will tread on his own grave. In saying this, I utter not the voice of flattery. I feel myself an Englishman amongst Englishmen; and I believe we have so much of the spirit of our forefathers remaining with us, that we can say that we will live freely [free] or we will die nobly. I would not despair of the issue of the cause in which we are engaged, were things worse than they are, if we do not estrange the love of him from us, to whom the battle belongeth." F. 20.

"We must recollect, however, he hath no where told us that he will work for us, while we sit idle. All that we have a right to ask from him is a blessing upon those means which we employ to obtain the object we have in view. Our whole life is a state of probation, requiring

requiring constant vigilance and regular exertion. The same circumspection must be observed (*by us*) as a nation, which we practise as individuals; and as we know that in the one case, nothing is achieved without labour and expence, so neither in the other, ought we to expect success without similar sacrifices." P. 20. Page 25 deserves also to be extracted, if our limits would permit it.

Ann. 36. *Two Sermons preached to a respectable Congregation at Horn Church in the County of Essex. The First on the Thanksgiving Day, Dec. 19, 1797. The Second on the Fast Day, March 7, 1798. By the Rev. W. H. Reynell, M. A. Vicar.* 8vo. 24 pp. London. 1798.

Zeal for good principles, and other laudable qualities, are displayed in these discourses; but, bad as the times are, we trust the picture is here in some places overcharged. This we do not consider as good policy, though we doubt not that it proceeds from very good intention.

POLITICS.

Ann. 37. *Considerations on the present Times, addressed to the Parish of Middleham, with the Warning of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.* By R. B. Nicholls, L. L. B. Dean. 8vo. 16 pp. 6d. Chesterfield, printed; to be had of Rivingtons. 1798.

We are glad to embrace an opportunity of noticing the *Warning of the General Assembly of Scotland*; because we have seldom seen a composition of more manly eloquence, more generous patriotism, or more sound piety. It was published by that assembly, and "ordered to be read by the ministers of that Church, from their respective pulpits, on the day appointed for a general Fast."—It opens thus.

"In the arduous contest in which we are at present engaged, we have not as yet met with any national disaster; but while the other states of Europe, intimidated by the progress of the French arms, are bending under the yoke, we have hitherto been able to protect our commerce, and to ward off the hostilities which have been directed against our shores. While, brethren, you celebrate the gallantry of our seamen, the vigilance and activity of our naval administration, the skill and alacrity of our commanders; while you honour, with daily expressions of your good will, the illustrious heroes who led to victory, and pay every tribute to the memory of the brave and faithful men who fell in the cause of their country,—amidst the acknowledgments due to human exertions, look up to Him whom the wind and the seas obey. Recollect the circumstances which render the time and the measure of a naval victory completely dependent upon the will of Heaven. In the train of success which has attended us round the globe, mark the continued interposition of Providence for our defence; and, after the example of the noble Admirals, who, in the presence of their Sovereign, presented upon the Altar of God, the colours which have been won in the great naval engagements of this war,

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let all ranks of men unite in saying, "Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but unto thy name be the glory."

"The succession of naval victories, which, we trust, brethren, you recollect with pious gratitude, has filled our enemies with rage. They are indignant that there is one nation in Europe, over which, in the unexampled career of their fortune, they have never gained any advantage; which has persevered in opposing its influence to the wild progress of their ambition, and has had the magnanimity to extend its views to the independence of Europe, and the liberties of mankind. They are indignant that there is one free government which repudiates their false maxims; one established constitution which exposes the chimerical nature of their system; one happy country, where the complete security, which the subject derives from the legal administration of justice, forms a striking contrast to the precarious tenure by which every man holds his life, his property, and his place in Society, under the unlimited despotism which has been engrafted upon their doctrines of liberty and equality. They have declared, that the French Republic and the British Government cannot subsist together. They are collecting on their coasts a great army, which, with a view both to insult and to intimidate us, they call, "the Army of England;" and, having rejected the equitable terms which we offered, without proposing in their turn any plan of pacification, they boast that they will send this army to dictate in London the terms upon which they will condescend to give us peace." P. 11.

What reader, with a British soul, will proceed thus far without desiring to peruse the rest? It consists of a concise but strong statement of the designs and atrocities of the French; a commendation of our laudable exertions; and very sound religious admonition. The Introductory Considerations prefixed by Dean Nickolls, dwell chiefly upon prophetic marks and characters of the times. They are written with clearness and vigour.

ART. 38. *Thoughts concerning the proper constitutional Principles, the Points of Finance and personal Service, that ought to be adopted in Future, for the Support of the British Navy and Army. Addressed to the Grand Juries of England, and to the landed and funded Interest of Great Britain. By a Freeholder of the County of York.* 8vo. 52 pp. 2s, Robinsons. 1797.

Under the head of *finance*, the author throws out some general hints, concerning the disadvantages of our present system of funding in time of war: and he points out the steps proper to be taken in order to a systematic correction of these disadvantages, p. 7. The grand step is, that "each individual, or collective body, who hold property, either in land, mortgage, government, or East India funds, should be taxed *ad valorem* of their respective property." P. 8.

Under the head of *personal service*, he endeavours to prove, that a constitutional power ought to be vested in government, to call upon each district of the empire for proportional quota of men for the navy or army." P. 7. This scheme was lately tried; and a most expensive one it proved to be,

A plan

A plan is then offered for recruiting and manning the navy; and another plan for recruiting the army. Some good suggestions are here presented to politicians and to statesmen.

ART. 39. *Thoughts on the French Invasion of England, by General Dumouriez, translated from the French, illustrated with a Chart of Great Britain and Ireland, with the Coasts of Spain, Portugal, and France; exhibiting all the Channels, Harbours, Bays, and Islands; with the exact Bearings and Distances between any two Places. Fourth Edition. 4to. 1s. 6d. Stockdale. 1798.*

The part of Dumouriez's pamphlet which relates to the threatened invasion of this country; is translated in this publication, by itself. It is very well done, and the chart is convenient for reference.

ART. 40. *O'Connor's Letters to Earl Camden, as published in the Courier of Monday, January 29. 12mo. 6d. Johnson. 1798.*

We are cautious of making remarks on this pamphlet, from the delicate situation of the author; and shall only intimate, that it contains rather an attack upon Lord Camden, than a vindication of the writer's personal conduct.

ART. 41. *A Letter from Citizen Gregoire, Bishop of Blois, to Don Joseph de Ance, Archbishop of Burgos, Chief Judge of the Inquisition in Spain, upon the Necessity and Advantage of suppressing that Tribunal. From the French, 12mo. 6d. Darton and Harvey. 1798.*

This is a letter sufficiently temperate, and by no means contemptible in point of arguments, on a subject, with respect to the final object of which, however we may differ in other matters, we readily coincide with the author.

ART. 42. *Facts in Reply to the scurrilous Aspersions on the Memory of the late Frederic, King of Prussia. 8vo. 6d. Jordan. 1798.*

The writer vindicates the conduct of the late King of Prussia, as it respects the French directory, and this country. It is impossible to decide whether the title "Facts" is justly prefixed. If just, the Monarch's conduct would, in Change-Alley, be termed consistent and proper; but in a great Prince we look for magnanimity, and other qualities than those which the language of the counting-house dignifies into praise.

ART. 43. *Thoughts on Mr. Fox's Secession for Six Months, and Return for a Day. By a Suffolk Freeholder. 8vo, 1s. Bickerstaff, Corner of Essex-Street, Strand. 1798.*

In writing to two leading members of opposition, this Suffolk Freeholder has been accustomed to tell his mind, not only with great freedom, but with a degree of point, which must render his epistles not quite agreeable to the persons addressed. His former publications were noticed in Brit. Crit. vol. iii, 201; vi, 439; and vii,

vii, 447. The present Letter begins by discussing the two questions, why did Mr. Fox desert his post? and, why did he return to it, for one day!—neither of which are answered in a favourable manner. It concludes by a sketch of the public services of the same statesman. We shall not cite any passages from this Letter, but content ourselves with saying, that it is similar in style and manner to those by which it was preceded.

ART. 44. *Matter of Fact for the Multitude. By a true Patriot; though neither a Member of the Corresponding Society, the White Club, nor any affiliated Society of Sedition in Europe.* 8vo, 38 pp. 6d. Wright, Piccadilly. 1798.

The facts contained in this pamphlet are numerous, perhaps more so than necessity required. Some of them, however, are new to us. We did not know that Mr. O'Connor was, as here represented, the avowed and registered editor of a Dublin Newspaper, called the *Press*, from which such paragraphs are cited, in a note on p. 30, as make it very astonishing to us, that several of our English politicians should publicly and solemnly have declared, that their sentiments entirely coincided with his. One of these paragraphs wishes final, complete, and speedy success to the *green colour*, the avowed colour of rebellion in Ireland. The whole tract is written with animation, and with the honest zeal of a Briton, anxious for the fate of his country. The probable effects of a peace, as contemplated by the enemies of the state, are well given from another Irish paper. "Should some unfortunate event put off your delivery, by England purchasing an immediate peace, you should not despond. Peace will be only temporary; it may be productive of some political comforts, as we may then openly praise and study the glorious truths France is capable of proclaiming. Communication with that country will be revived, and liberty will gain new strength, and knowledge will be more universal; consequently despotism will die, and Irishmen will go to the funeral!"

MISCELLANIES.

ART. 45. *Reflections on the late Augmentations of the English Peerage; to which are added, a short Account of the Peers in the Reign of Queen Elizabeth, and a Catalogue of all the Knights created in that illustrious Reign.* 8vo, p. 3, 6. Robson. 1798.

This pamphlet is undoubtedly written by an eminent master of English historical and biographical learning, with as much correctness as the subject can possibly admit. The political reflections are both wise and constitutional, and may be praised for sound opinion and powerful argument. The style also is easy and elegant—the motive of this publication is very far removed from the low demagogical cant we are often compelled to read on similar subjects; and the only objections we have to make are those which follow:—The first relates to what the author says, in p. 16, on the Order of the Garter. The Honour of the Garter, it should be observed, has for nearly two centuries

was not been confined almost entirely to the peerage, and, after so long custom, would be discarded if frequently otherwise bestowed. Only two commoners, Sir Robert Walpole and Lord North, (the latter heir to an earldom) have, we think, been K. G. in this century. It ought to be held at least as important as the peerage: even the author tells us it was "originally the reward of heroes," and in the same breath inconsistently advises that it should be given to persons who, he is inclined to believe, possess little if any merit at all. Page 22. The assertion (qualified by "I believe") that only eight peerages have become extinct during the present administration, is very erroneous—the number is at least double.

ART. 46. *Biographical Anecdotes of the Founders of the French Republic, and of other eminent Characters, who have distinguished themselves in the Progress of the Revolution.* 12mo. 432 pp. 5s. Phillips, Johnson, &c. 1797.

The compiler of these anecdotes has been more solicitous to present a great number of sketches than to fill up and finish his delineations with skill or accuracy. Many of the lives contained in this volume are abridged, or copied, without examination, from French works; such as "The Five Men," "The Campaigns of Pichegru," &c. and the chief aim of the author, appears to be the general commendation of every individual who assisted in destroying the ancient government of France, and establishing the present order of things. The degrees of praise are regularly comparative. The first revolutionists are extolled by comparison with the court, and the present rulers are elevated above all their predecessors. The most unqualified censures are lavishly bestowed on the royal family and nobility, and frequently in terms no less offensive to decency, than repugnant to truth. The whole compilation betrays evident marks of haste, misinformation, and prejudice. The author, with a degree of negligence highly culpable, advances statements contrary to fact, falsifies dates, and even contradicts himself. For example, he asserts (p. 66) that La Fayette was merely a partizan in the *petite guerre* of America, and afterwards (p. 384) that La Fayette's military and political services supported the American Revolution; and that to his efforts may be referred the establishment of American independence. He says that *Mesdames* (the King's aunts who left France in February 1791) were the first of the royal family who took the alarm and emigrated. It is hardly necessary to inform the reader, that the Count d'Artois, the Prince de Condé, and the Prince de Conti, quitted the kingdom in July 1789.—He asserts that Robespierre first brought the term *aristocrat* into common use, by an application of it in the National Assembly on the 19th of November, 1790.—The slightest recollection on the subject must be sufficient to convince the reader, that, during the whole progress of the Revolution, the word *aristocrat* was in constant use, particularly in the year 1789, and at the Confederation in July, 1790. With as little attention to truth, the author says that Dumouriez is in the forty-first year of his age: Dumouriez, according to his own account, was born the 25th of January, 1739. It would be an endless task to recapitulate

recapitulate all the errors of this kind, and to expose the fallacies and misrepresentations of persons, characters, and events with which this work abounds.

ART. 47. *A Journal of Occurrences at the Temple during the Confinement of Louis XVI. King of France.* By M. Clery, the King's Valet de Chambre. Translated from the original Manuscript, by R. C. Dallas, Esq. Author of *Miscellaneous Writings*. 8vo. 3s. 6d. Egerton. 1798.

The mind cannot fail of being divided between indignation and the deepest sorrow at reading the authentic detail of the unmerited sufferings of this mild, and in the latter scenes of his life, truly magnanimous Prince: The utmost refinement of malice was exercised upon him and his miserable family, by a set of miscreants, many of whom, it is some satisfaction to know, the just vengeance of heaven has already overtaken. The author of this afflicting narrative seems to be entitled to the highest praise; no terrors induced him to forsake the dangerous office he voluntarily sought, but he attended with dutiful obsequiousness to the last hour, on his good and royal master.

ART. 48. *The Orchardist: or a System of Close Pruning and Medication, for Establishing the Science of Orcharding, as patronized by the Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce.* By Thomas Skip Dyot Bucknall, Esq. Extracted from the 11th, 12th, 13th, and 14th Volumes of the Society's Transactions, with Additions. 8vo. 122 pp. 3s. Nicol. 1797.

Mr. Bucknall affirms, that the science of pruning orchards is "capable of being methodized into a system to suit the meanest capacity, and does not require the skill of a Gardener; being reducible to a few general heads, concentrating in the principle of making every tree in an orchard healthy, round, large, and beautiful." His instructions on this subject are recommended by many successful experiments, made in the course of seven years; for the communication of which, he received repeated thanks and honours from the Society mentioned in the title page. A cheap, medicated tar, p. 14, (improved upon by Lord Newark, p. 121.) cures all the wounds occasioned by pruning. We shall place before our readers the "abstract," which Mr. B. has given, "of the system of close-pruning and medication."—"Let every stump, the decayed or blighted branches, with all those which cross the tree, or where the leaves curl, be taken off close, smooth and even; pare down the gum close to the bark, and rather a little within, but not to destroy the rough coat; open the fissures, out of which the gum oozes, to the bottom; cut away the blotches, and pare down the canker; then anoint all the wounds with the medication, smeared a little over the canker, which was not large enough to be cut; wash and score the tree, and rub off the moss; but do not shorten a single branch." Mr. B. estimates the orchards of this country at 300,000 acres; and his improvements, in 10 years time, at "more than one pound per acre, in value, per annum." These premises being admitted, his conclusion is incontestible; that he may "look upon

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upon himself as being the actual means of benefiting his country to the amount of more than three hundred thousand pounds a year." If the benefit should fall short of this sum, yet it seems likely to be very great, and fairly to entitle him to the character he assumes, of "Orchardist-General." P. 78.

Our commendation of Mr. B. as an Orchardist, cannot be extended to him as a writer. His book would bear "a very free pruning-knife;" and even "large branches might be amputated," with safety and good effect.

ART. 49. *Authentic Memoirs of the late Mr. Charles Macklin, Comedian, in which is introduced a variety of Particulars, hitherto unknown to the Public; together with Notes illustrative and explanatory. By Francis Aspy Congreve.* 8vo. 1s. 6d. Barker. 1798.

This pamphlet seems to have been produced on the spur of the occasion, and hardly justifies so circumstantial a title-page. A tolerable figure of the deceased veteran is annexed, by way of frontispiece.

ART. 50. *Authentic Memoirs of the Life and Reign of Catherine II. Empress of all the Russias, collected from authentic MSS. Translations, &c. of the late King of Sweden, Lord Mountmorres, Lord Malmesbury, M. de Volney, and other indisputable Authorities.* 12mo. 3s. 6d. Crosby. 1798.

We wish authors would generally deliberate before they annex a lofty title-page to their works. When it happens to be the *Vox et præterea nihil*, as is much the case in the instance before us, the object of the writer, which is doubtless the circulation of his book, cannot be answered.

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ART. 51. *Vie de Catherine II. impératrice de Russie, avec cette épigraphe.*

Nihil compositum miraculi causa, verum audita scriptaque senioribus tradam.
Tacite, *Ann. lib. xi.*

4 vol. in 8vo. de 900 pages, imprimés sur caractères de cicero Didot, et sur papier carré fin, avec les portraits de Catherine II. de Pierre III. de Grégoire Orloff, de Romiatowski, Roi de Pologne, de Paul Petrovitz, empereur actuel, et du Prince Potemkin, gravés en taille-douce, par Tardieu, et sous sa direction. Prix 10 livres brochés. Paris. 1797.

The author of this work had at first given it the form of a correspondence; a manner of writing which, in historical compositions, is attended

attended with inconveniences of which he was not, perhaps, sufficiently aware. It is, however, recommended by the happy disposition of the facts, by the discovery of some which were heretofore unknown, by the justness of the reflexions, by the faithful description of characters, and particularly, by the facility and parity of the style; a quality which we think it necessary to point out, as it becomes every day more and more rare.

The facts themselves appear to be well authenticated. The writer who had resided for some years in the north was, during that period, favoured with the communication of some notes made by a foreign minister who had passed a long time at Petersburg, and was one of the principal confidants of *Gregory Orloff*. He had likewise been furnished by the Ambassadors and other distinguished persons, who had lived in the court of Russia, with a variety of useful and original information.

We shall not undertake to follow the author in the course of his narrative, to give an extract from, or abridgment of, a book which, on account of the instruction that it is calculated to convey, deserves so well to be read throughout. The character which is developed in it, has for upwards of thirty years had so powerful an influence on the state of Europe, that one cannot, without the most lively interest, attend to the chain of events which result from it. We shall transcribe from the work the author's account of a singular trait in that character.

“ Lorsque cette princesse avoit fait choix d'un nouveau favori, elle le créoit son aide-de-camp général, afin qu'il pût l'accompagner partout sans qu'on y trouvât à redire. Dès lors le favori occupoit un appartement qui étoit au dessous de celui de l'impératrice, & qui communiquoit par un escalier dérobé. Le premier jour de son installation, il recevoit un présent de cent mille roubles (500,000 francs), & chaque mois il en trouvoit douze mille sur sa toilette. Le maréchal de la cour étoit chargé de lui entretenir une table de 24 couverts, & de fournir à toutes les dépenses de sa maison. Le favori étoit obligé d'accompagner partout l'impératrice; il ne pouvoit sortir du palais sans lui en demander l'agrément; il n'osoit pas causer avec d'autres femmes qu'elle; & s'il alloit dîner chez quelqu'un de ses amis, il falloit que la maîtresse de la maison s'absentât.

“ Toutes les fois que l'impératrice portoit ses regards sur un de ses sujets pour l'élever au poste de favori, elle le faisoit inviter par quelqu'une de ses confidentes, chez laquelle elle se rendoit comme par hasard. Là, elle causoit avec le nouveau venu, & cherchoit à connaître s'il étoit digne de la faveur qu'elle lui destinoit. Quand le jugement qu'elle en portoit étoit favorable, un regard en instruisoit la confidente, qui avertissoit, à son tour, celui qui avoit l'honneur de lui plaire. Le lendemain il recevoit la visite du médecin de la cour, qui venoit examiner l'état de sa santé; & le même soir il accompagnoit l'impératrice à l'Hermitage, & prenoit possession de l'appartement qui lui étoit préparé. Ce fut lorsqu'on choisit Potemkin, que ces formalités commencèrent: depuis, elles ont été constamment observées.

“ Lors

"Lorsqu'un favori cessoit de plaire, il y avoit aussi une manière particulière de lui ôter sa place : il recevoit l'ordre de voyager. Dès lors, la vue de l'impératrice lui étoit interdite; mais il étoit certain de trouver au lieu où il se iendoit, des récompenses dignes de l'orgueil de Catherine."

Two of the most famous of these favourites were *Gregory Orloff* and *Potemkin*; the name of the former will be recollected only as that of an assassin, whilst that of the latter has reflected some honour on his country, and his memory will continue to enjoy that sort of glory which is attached to conquests and military exploits. We have here subjoined a list of some of the dignities with which Catherine may be said rather to have overwhelmed, than decorated, *Potemkin*. He was Knight of the best Orders of Prussia, of Sweden, of Poland, and of all the orders of Russia; field-marshal, commander in chief of all the Russian armies; chief general of horse; grand admiral of the fleets of the Black Sea, of the sea of Azoph and of the Caspian Sea; senator and president of the college of war; governor-general of Catharinenhof and of Tauris; adjutant-general and chamberlain of the Empress; inspection-general of the army; colonel of the guards Préobajinsky; chief of the corps of horse-guards; colonel of the regiment of Cuirassiers, of the dragoons of Petersburg, and of the grenadiers of Catharinenhof; grand herman of the Cossacks, &c.

Espr. d. Journaux.

ART. 53. *Portrait de Catherine II. impératrice de toutes les Russies.*
1797.

It appears that the author of this portrait had been very much indebted to the late Empress of Russia, and he is certainly not wanting in gratitude for the favours which he had received. "*Catherine-le-Grand*," says he, "(j'espère que l'Europe confirmera ce nom) Catherine-le-Grand n'est plus. Ces deux mots sont affreux à prononcer. Je n'aurois pas pu hier les écrire; mais je ne me gênerai plus pour donner d'elle l'idée qu'on doit en avoir."

If the sex of *Catherine* had allowed her the activity of a man, who put himself inspect every thing, be present on all occasions, and enter into all details, there would not, according to this author, have remained a single abuse in her empire. Except in this respect only, she was greater than Peter I. and would never have made his shameful capitulation of Pruth. *Anne* and *Elizabeth*, on the contrary, would have been des *hammes médiocres*, though, as women, their reign was not without glory. *Catherine II.* to the qualities which they possessed, superadded such as have rendered her rather the creatress, than the successor of her empire. She might without difficulty be a greater politician than these two empresses, and she had more caution than *Peter the Great*; whether her object was victory or peace, she always carried her point.

The empress had every thing that was of importance in the character of *Louis XIV.* She resembled him in his magnificence, in his entertainments, his pensions, in the dignity of his appearance. Her court

court was better regulated, and had nothing in it of theatrical show. But the military, or Asiatic, mixture which presented the rich costume of more than thirty different nations, had something in it peculiarly striking. With inferior pretension, *Louis* considered himself to be *sec pluribus impar*, and *Alexander* the son of *Jupiter Ammon*.

Her words were undoubtedly of great weight, but she did not appear to regard them as such. It was not an external adoration that she exacted. People trembled at the sight of *Louis XIV.* By that of *Catherine II.* they were encouraged. *Louis* was intoxicated with his glory; *Catherine* extended her's, without suffering her head to be affected by it.

Catherine spoke of the part which we are all to support in the world, and looked upon it in that light. That of empress was the best adapted to her appearance, to her demeanour, to the elevation of her soul, to the capacity of her genius which was commensurate with that of her empire. She was particularly able to distinguish merit. *Louis* was in his choice directed either by good fortune, or by favour. *Catherine* made her's on mature deliberation, and assigned to each person his appropriate department. She said one day to the author: "*Je ris souvent toute seule, voyant les alarmes d'un général ou d'un ministre, quand je traite bien ses ennemis. Ils ne sont pas les miens pour cela, dis-je en moi-même. Je les emploie parcequ'ils ont du talent, et je me moque de ceux qui s'imaginent que je ne me servirai plus des gens qu'ils n'aiment pas.*"

The contrast of simplicity in what she said in society, with the great things executed by her, was very striking. She would take a share in the most trifling pleasantry, and afterwards avail herself of the circumstance in a peculiarly agreeable manner. The author had once related to her, that in order to exculpate himself to a lady at *Petersburg*, who had complained that he did not join sufficiently in the conversation in her company, he had answered, that he had just received information that an aunt by whom he was brought up, was at the point of death; and when the Empress, on a public day found herself much wearied, she said: *Je suis au moment de perdre mon oncle.* It was immediately whispered: "*Nous allons avoir un deuil.*" The uncle was sought for in the kalendar, but could not be found.

She was always accusing herself of ignorance, and the author allowed that she had no taste for painting or music. Once when her antimusical ear opposed itself to her progress in the mechanism of French verses, which the Count de *Segur* and the author wished to teach her, she said: "*Vous voyez bien, messieurs, que vous ne me louez qu'en gros, mais qu'en détail vous me trouvez une ignorante.*" It must, however, be admitted; replied the author, that you possess one science: "*celle des à-propos. Votre majesté n'a jamais rien dit, fait dire, changé, ordonné, et fini qu'à point nommé.*" She answered: "*Peut être, dit-elle, que tout cela a bon air. Mais qu'on examine à fond. C'est au prince Orlov que je dois l'éclat d'une partie de mon règne; car c'est lui qui m'a conseillé d'envoyer ma flotte dans l'Archipel. C'est au prince Potemkin que je dois la Tauride, et l'expulsion de toutes les sortes de Tartares qui menaçoient toujours l'empire. Tout ce qu'on peut dire, c'est que j'ai élevé ces messieurs. C'est au maréchal Romanzow que je*
dois

dois mes victoires. Voilà ce que je lui ai dit : Monsieur le maréchal, on va se donner des coups ; il vaut mieux en donner qu'en recevoir. C'est à Michelson que je dois la prise de Pugatschew, qui a manqué de venir à Moscou, et peut-être plus loin. Croyez-moi, je n'ai que du bonheur ; et si l'on est un peu content du moi, c'est que j'ai un peu de fermeté et d'égalité dans mes principes. Je donne beaucoup d'autorité à ceux que j'emploie. Si on s'en sert quelquefois dans mes gouvernemens voisins des Persans, des Turcs et des Chinois pour faire du mal, tant pis. Je cherche à le savoir.

"Je fais bien qu'on y dit : Dieu et l'impératrice nous puniroient ; mais l'un est bien haut, et l'autre est bien loin. Mais voilà les hommes, et je ne suis qu'une femme."

The Empress was much beloved by her clergy, though both their revenues and authority had been greatly abridged by her. When Pugatschew, at the head of his brigands, laying waste the country, entered with his drawn sabre into the churches to require the officiating ministers to pray for him, a curate, on his approach, having taken the sacrament, and going out to meet him, said : "Augment thy crimes, wretch, by massacring me, who bear in my arms our Lord Jesus Christ. Cut off my head, if thou dare. I have just been praying for the Empress."

The Empress neither admired, nor was acquainted with modern literature, and possessed more of logic than of rhetoric. Her lighter works, as, for instance, her comedies, had always a moral view, as the criticism of modern travels, observations on the different fashions, on religious sects, and particularly on the Martinists, whom she always looked upon to be dangerous. In her style there is a great degree of perspicuity : her serious works are profound, and her *History of Russia* is not inferior, in the judgment of this author, to the *Chronological Tables* of the President Henault.

Every day, says the author, presented new traits of her humanity. She once said to him : "Pour n'avoir pas voulu faire lever trop matin mes gens, parcequ'il fait, bien froid, j'ai allumé mon feu moi-même ; un petit ramoneur qui croyoit que je ne me leverois qu'à cinq heures et demie, étoit dans ma cheminée ; il a crié comme un démon ; j'ai éteint vite mon feu, et lui ai bien demandé pardon."

It is generally known that she has scarcely ever sent any one to Siberia, where, however, they were very well treated ; nor did she ever order the death of any one. On the contrary, she has often opposed the decisions of the judges, and herself furnished the accused with the means of defence.

Pretended discoverers of anecdotes, libellists, ill-intentioned persons, and such as are wicked by profession, may wish to diminish her glory, but she will triumph over them. People will recollect, says the author, what I have myself seen, in accompanying her not less than two thousand miles through her states, the love and adoration of her subjects ; and in her armies, the enthusiasm of her soldiers. I have beheld them in the trenches, braving the balls of the infidels, and all the rigours of the elements, consoled and reanimated by the name only of *Matrouschka* (their mother) and their idol. *Ibid.*

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We are happy to answer the query of G. H. by assuring him that *Lord Monboddo* is still living. Intelligence, on which we thought we could depend, affirmed the contrary, and occasioned the allusion in p. 658. We therefore recall our words with very different feelings from those with which we wrote them.

A correspondent who read with attention our remarks on the usual method of introducing modern surnames into Latin composition (p. 623) suggests the propriety of adopting Sir William Jones's plan in his *Poeseos Asiaticæ Commentariis*. That correct and elegant scholar generally prefixed the baptismal of the person of whom he wrote, and added the surname without any inflection; adapting the authorized terminations of the Christian name to the grammatical arrangement of the sentence.

A Letter from A. Z. is received, its candour is fully acknowledged, and it is reserved for further consideration.

We have not yet received the book mentioned by X. D.

We could wish that a *Lover of Truth* had been also a lover of sound sense, in which case a great part of his letter to us would have been omitted. As to some of his opinions, we do not wish to argue with those, who do not regard the words of Scripture as authorities.

LITERARY INTELLIGENCE.

A Tour through the *Isle of Man* will soon be published by Mr. John Feltham.

The first volume of Mr. E. W. Whitaker's *Family Sermons* will, we understand, be ready for the subscribers within the month of August.

ERRATA.

In p. 689, *June*, l. 4 from the bottom, for *Wilkes* r. *Hants*.

— 691, l. 3, for 3s. r. 5s.

— 700. In the title of Art. 67, for *Yabingen* r. *Tubingen*, and put a full period after *Gsch*. This error occasioned the insertion of the name of the town, instead of that of the author, in the corresponding article of the blue cover.

T H E
BRITISH CRITIC,
For AUGUST, 1798.

Bene merenti bene profuerit, male merenti par erit.

PLAUTUS.

He who writes well, the voice of praise shall hear;
Blockheads and knaves the Critic rod may fear.

ART. I. *The History and Antiquities of the County of Leicester.*
By John Nichols, F. S. A. Edinb. and Perth, and Printer to
the Society of Antiquaries of London. Volume II. Part II.
containing Gartre Hundred. 2l. 12s. 6d. Nichols.
1798.

WE congratulate the public with the sincerest pleasure, on this addition to an important and valuable work, the progressive continuation of which seems more and more to increase the reputation of the author for indefatigable diligence, persevering research, acute observation, and skilful arrangement of his matter. Before we enter into particulars, justice to Mr. Nichols requires us to observe, that of this large volume, nearly a third part is given to the subscribers without any additional expence; and the subject of which it treats, namely, the Religious Foundations in Leicester, is no less interesting to the antiquary, than entertaining in itself, and productive of general entertainment and information. It may be also observed, that the History of Leicester Abbey has never before been known.

I

It

BRIT. CRIT. VOL. XII. AUGUST, 1798.

It is our office perhaps to point out to our readers generally, those particular parts of a voluminous work like the present, which will best repay their attention, and gratify in the perusal. We accordingly direct and recommend to the examination of all who are versed in antiquarian learning, or curious in topographical investigation, the portions of this volume which are occupied in describing Husbands Bosworth, p. 459; Gumley, p. 582; Houghton, p. 611; Langton, p. 659; Noleley, p. 739; Theddingworth, p. 821. &c. &c.

Our extracts will, of course, be taken from the parts of the work we thus particularly recommend. The first obviously contains much curious matter.

"In 1762, Elizabeth Fortescue was possessed of the lordship and principal manor of Husbands Bosworth, which before had been possessed by her grandfather, father, and brother. This lady, who died in 1763, devised her estates in the counties of Leicesters, Oxford, Northampton, and Bucks, to Francis Fortescue Turville, esq. the present owner, 1796; who possesses the court-rolls of Husbands Bosworth as far back as the reign of Edward the First, and thence in a regular series to the present time, and by whom court-lets are regularly held.

Mr. Turville, whose grandfather was a brother of the last Francis Turville, esq. of Aston Flamville, is the immediate representative of the ancient families of the Turvilles of Thurlleston, Newhall, Normanton Turville, and Aston Flamville, all in this county. He married, April 9, 1780, Barbara, daughter of the honourable Charles Talbot, of Store Cross, co. Stafford; niece to the late and sister to the present earl of Shrewsbury.

"Two lineal descendants of the Aston branch of the family of Turville or Tourville, as they called themselves in compliance with the orthography of the Continent) are buried in the old church of the English nuns at Brussels, of the order of St. Dominic; where the Rev. John Norton of Hinckley some years since transcribed for me the following epitaphs (at the top of each of which are engraved the family arms:)

"Quod mortale fuit
sub hoc marmore deposuit
nobilis adolescens GEORGIUS TOURVILLE,
filius unicus unicéque dilectus
FRANCISCI TOURVILLE, de Aston,
agro Leicestrensi, armigeri, et
prænobilis domini ELIZABETHÆ DOUGHTY, conjugis;
abiit die quintâ Octobris, ætatis an. 11, 1735.
Requiescat in pace +."

"D. O. M.

Ob memoriam dilecti sui mariti
prænobilis domini D. FRANCISCI TOURVILLE,
armigeri, de Aston, in comitatu Leicestrensi,
qui vitam cum morte commutavit 29 Octobris, 1749.

Hoc posuit prænobilis domina
ELIZABETHA TOURVILLE, alias DOUGHTY.
Pie lector, ora pro eo ut æterna R. l. P. +."

"The

"The old Hall-house of Husbands Bosworth (of which a view is given in plate LXXX.) is situated on the declivity of a small eminence. It is beautifully embowered; and the trees and pleasure grounds add greatly to the beauty of the distant view of this village. An elegant modern mansion has lately been added, without disturbing the ancient structure.

"In the library of Mr. Turville" (I use the words of my late friend David Wells, esq.) "is an antient Psalter, written in latin, with Roman-Saxon characters. It is interlined, and so much crowded with Gothic annotations, that the text, though very large, is scarcely legible. Where no annotations are made, the Saxon is placed over the Latin, word for word, by way of interpretation. The hymns and canons for the different festivals are at the end; also the Canon Missæ, wherein the names of certain saints occur, that are not to be seen in the present ordinary. In the calendar appear most of the Saxon saints; but many are wanting of a later date: for instance, St. Edward, St. Anselm, St. Thomas, &c. There are other singularities. One day in March is filled up with 'Diabolus à d'no recessit;' another, in December, is called, 'Exitus Noë de Arcâ.' From the above remarks, I infer it must be of great antiquity. It is a large folio, on vellum, or rather stout parchment, bound in very thick boards. On the first page are certain signatures, whereof I here send you the fac similia. No illuminations adorn this book; only here and there some very large grotesque capitals, reaching from the top to the bottom of the leaf. These large letters appear at the beginning of each psalm, of various moderate colours, but not gilded, either plain or burnished. In the same library is a neat MS prayer book (a Diurnal) on vellum, formerly belonging to sir Adrian Fortescue, knight of St. John of Jerusalem, attainted in parliament for denying the king's supremacy, April 28, 1539, and beheaded July 10, together with sir Thomas Dingley, a knight of the same order. Sir Adrian has written his name on the first leaf; of which I also send you a fac simile.

"Mr. Turville has in his possession an original painting, on board, of Judge Fortescue, chancellor of England in the reign of Henry VI; which is deemed to be a most valuable curiosity.

"In the gallery there is also an old picture of a man in a ruff, with the collar of the order of St. George; the arms in one corner, viz. quarterly, 1st and 4th, Or, a lion rampant Azure; 2d and 3d, Gules, three lucies haurient Argent; surrounded by the Garter and motto, 'Honi soit qui mal y pense.' Over the top of the figure of the man, these words, 'ESPERANCE EN DIEU ME COMFORTE. Etatis sue 38, An^o DNI 1566, ET DIE DEC^o JUNII.' This is clearly Henry Percy, earl of Northumberland."

"To this information of Mr. Wells, Mr. Potts, several years chaplain to Mr. Turville, adds, that there is also in the library, brought thither from Salden, Bucks, the antient seat of one branch of the Fortescues, "Declaratio facta ad prænob. virum Johannem Fortescue, militem, Cancellarium & Subthesaurarium Scaccarii, per Chidiotum Wardoure, Clericum Pellium, de omnibus & omnimodis denariorum Summis, tam Receptis quam Expensis, per manus 4 Numeratorum Perceptorum Scaccarii Domine Regine, cum reman. eorundem, necnon

In Assignat. per Tall. inde levat. a festo Sancti Matthei Ap'i, de anno 43^o Regine Elizabethæ, usque ad Festum Pasche extunc sequent. per spatium unius medietatis anni, prout in Rotulis Pellium ibidem manifestè & plenius liquet."

"There is another valuable MS. in this library, intituled, "*Notæ Ciceronianæ*," written so early as 1120, and still in good preservation; which Mr. Astle, an excellent judge of these matters, thus describes:

"This MS. contains the *Notæ Tironianæ*, so called from Tiro, the freed-man of Cicero, who improved the art of Short-hand writing very considerably. These *Notæ* continued in use till the middle of the eleventh century. In the year 1747, the learned and ingenious Mons. Carpentier published at Paris this *Alphabetum Tironianum* with a great number of notes or marks for different parts of speech, and rules for acquiring the art of writing in these kind of *Notes*. There is a Dictionary of them by Janus Gruterus. See many particulars concerning these *Notæ* in my '*Origin and Progress of Writing*.' P. 173—176."

"Mr. Turville possesses a finely illuminated pedigree of his ancestors; of whom a more particular account will be found under Normanston Turville. Of the branch which settled at Aston Flamville, the genealogy will be found on the opposite page."

If the above be entitled to attention, what follows cannot possibly be less so.

"Biographical and Historical Illustrations of Langton.

"WALTER DE LANGTON, a native of West Langton, was appointed lord high treasurer of England, Sept. 28, 1295, and elected bishop of Lichfield and Coventry Feb. 20, 1295-6. He was a great favourite with king Edward I, in whose cause he suffered excommunication, and whose corpse he had afterwards the honour of conducting from the borders of Scotland to Westminster. He was scarcely arrived in London, when he was imprisoned by the constable of the Tower; and, notwithstanding the repeated application of the clergy to king Edward II. in his behalf, was shifted about to Wallingford and York for two years before he was released, and his property restored. His only crime, according to Walsingham, was his having remonstrated with Edward II. in his father's life-time for his imprudence and extravagance, which the prince resented by breaking down the bishop's park-fences. His father having for this confined him, Edward II. determined that he should feel confinement himself, and even in his father's life involved him in accusations to the pope, who, after proper investigation, acquitted him. It appears from archbishop Greenfield's register, 1311, that he was even charged with murder. With his own innocence, and friends' assistance," says Fuller, "at long failing he weathered out the tempest of the pope's displeasure. Longer still did he groan under the undeserved anger of king Edward the Second, chiefly because this bishop sharply reprov'd him, when as yet but prince, for his debauchery. But our Langton at length was brought (saith my author) in regis semigratiam, into the king's half favour; let me add, & in populi sequegratiam, and into the people's favour and half, who highly loved and honoured him. His tragi-comical

al life had a peaceable end in plenty and prosperity." On his discharge, he retired to his see, to which he was an especial benefactor. "He found his cathedral of Lichfield mean," adds Fuller, "and left it magnificent; and it will appear by the instance of our Langton and others, that bishops continuing unremoved in their see have achieved greater matters than those who have been often translated, though to richer bishopricks." Indeed, prodigious was his bounty in building and endowing his cathedral, wherein he continued almost 25 years. He compassed the cloisters with a stone wall, and bestowed a rich shrine upon St. Chad, which cost him £2000. He also ditched and walled that enclosure about the cathedral, now called 'The Close; erected two stately gates at the West and South sides of it; and joined it to the city by the bridges that he built there in 1310. He bestowed large sums of money in buying plate, jewels, copes, and vestments, for the church; and obtained many privileges and immunities thereto. He also built a new palace at the East end of the Close in Lichfield; and repaired his castle at Ecclethall, his palace by the Strand in London, and his manor-house of Shutborough, co. Stafford. He died Nov. 16, 1321, and was buried in the chapel of St. Mary, a stately and costly building of his own erecting. His figure there, made of Derbyshire marble, much injured by time and the civil war, is habited in pontificalibus, with his gloves on, and a jewel on his breast; his left hand holding a crozier, his right in a posture of benediction. At his head is a pediment; and on each side an angel censuring him. In the spandrils of the gateway belonging to the Choristers house in the Close of Lichfield was placed the rebus of this bishop, a tun pierced by a lance.

"JOHN DE LANGTON, a native of West Langton, was brought up at Oxford, and became a Carmelite frier in London. He is styled by Bale "*bachalarius ordinis Carmel*;" and Tanner says, "*scholas frequentavit, & inter supremos theologos merito commemoratus est.*" This John Langton (when William Courtney archbishop of Canterbury, and divers other prelates, assembled with king Richard II. at Stamford in 1392, condemned the heresies of Henry Crump, a Cistercian-monk of Ireland) was present there, and, noting all that done, was collected a book of speeches on that occasion "*singula audacter inferuit & scripsit in testimonium talium errorum*;" and another of the arguments and answers which the said Crump made use of to defend himself. One of these is called "*De examinatione Doctoris Henr. Crump Hibernici*;" the other, "*Impugnatio ejusdem super confessione.*" He wrote also another work, called "*Actus sui ordinarii*;" which in its time was highly esteemed. He died in London some time after 1400.

"POLYDORE VERBIL (or Virgil, as his name has lately been written), a writer who, Bayle says, "did not want either genius or learning," was born at Urbino in Italy in the fifteenth century; but the year is not named. The earliest work he published was, "*A Collection of Proverbs, 1498,*" inscribed to Guido Pacea duke of Urbino; and it was re-printed three or four times in a very short space. As he was the first among the moderns who published any book of that nature; he seems to have been a little proud upon it; and

and the success encouraged him to undertake a more difficult work, his famous book "*de rerum inventoribus*," on the Inventions of Authors, printed in 1499; in the preface to which, as well as in his *Proverbs*, he boasted of having opened the way to all other writers; and charged Erasmus, whose "*Adagia*" first appeared in the year 1498, and who did not notice Polydore's work, with a design to rob him of the honour due to him. Erasmus, in his answer, demonstrates how much Polydore was mistaken in fancying that he had published his book of "*Proverbs*" before Erasmus, who, respecting him as a man of merit and abilities, and being unwilling to quarrel, expostulated with him in great candour and good-nature. Polydore, indeed, said a great many harsh things of him, in the preface to a new edition of his "*Proverbs*," still accusing him of vanity and envy, treating him as a plagiarist, and extremely angry that Erasmus, in the preface to the first edition of his "*Adagia*," had made no mention of his book. Their friendship, however, does not seem to have been long interrupted. Erasmus had persuaded Froben to print Polydore's book; who in return yielded to strike out of the fourth edition of his "*Proverbs*" every thing injurious to Erasmus, to whom he dedicated the translation of a book of St. Chrysostom; and presented him with money to purchase a horse. Polydore was afterwards sent into England by Alexander VI. to collect the tribute called Peter-pence; and recommended himself in this country so effectually to the powers in being, and was so well pleased with it, that, having in 1503 obtained the rectory of Church Langton, he resolved to spend the remainder of his life in England. In 1507 he was presented to the archdeaconry of Wells and prebend of Nonnington in the church of Hereford; and was in the same year collated to the prebend of Scamelfby in the church of Lincoln, which he resigned in 1513 for the prebend of Osgate in that of St. Paul, London, 1513.

"In 1517 he published at London a new edition of his work "*de rerum inventoribus*," then consisting of six books, with a prefatory address to his brother John Matthew Vergil; and, about 1521, on the command of king Henry VIII, undertook a considerable work, the "*History of England*," which, after twelve years labour, he published, with a dedication to the king, in 1533; but, as Bayle rightly observes, the English do not much value it. It has, indeed, been severely censured by many of our writers; and a critick upon historical works, who speaks of it with moderation, has yet said enough to make it of no value. These are his words: "*Polydore Vergil was the most accomplished writer, for elegance and clearness of style, that his age afforded. So much Leland, the severest enemy he had, has acknowledged of him; and, on this score alone, some have unreasonably extolled him. But there is so little of the other more necessary qualification of a good historian, truth and fair dealing, in all his twenty-six books, that he has been justly condemned by our critics; and it is no wonder that some of them have expressed an indignation suitable to the abuses put upon their country.*" And John Caius mentions it as a thing "not only reported, but even certainly known, that Polydore Vergil, to prevent the discovery of the faults in his history, most wickedly committed as many of our ancient MS. histories to the flames

as a waggon could hold." Yet it was printed several times, and very much read; which reflection, among many others, may serve to shew us the value of *false*, distinct from the real advantages it brings; since the worst books are often applauded in one age, while the best in another shall drop into oblivion ere they scarcely become known.

"In 1526, he published a treatise "*Of Prodigies and Lots*;" in three books, addressed to Fr. Maria duke of Urbino: consisting of dialogues between himself and Robert Risley of Cambridge, and strongly attacking divination.

"In 1550, being advanced in years, he obtained letters of dismission from King Edward VI. to re-visit his native country; which he would not have requested had not old age required a warmer and more southern climate. Bishop Burnet tells us, that "*having been now almost forty years here, growing old, he desired leave to go nearer his son*. It was granted him the 2d of June, and, in consideration of the public service he was thought to have done the nation by his History, he was permitted to hold his archdeaconry of Wells and his prebend of Nonnington, notwithstanding his absence from the kingdom." It is said that he died at Urbino in 1555. He was not a zealous papist in all points. Though in most of his writings he asserted the doctrine of the Romish church, yet he is said to have defended the marriage of the clergy, and to have condemned the worship of images, with some other superstitious practices of that church; nor was he at all disgusted with the alterations that were made in the affairs of England under Henry VIII. and Edward VI. There are several sentiments occasionally introduced in his writings, which did not please the bigots of his own church."

Again, p. 678, from the history of the Staveley family, we insert the following curious letters.

"Hinckley, Nov. 9, 1657.

"Good brother; this present opportunity invites me to present you with a cordiall, in telling you your deare is well, and your sonne and beire (not apparent), as shee witnessed in her letter to my mother the last Friday. I intend very suddenly to see her, who seeth you in her thoughts; I will not say I could wish you with us, for your absence will be your presence in a glass of wine; but in the end we shall coule our loves with teares, and leave you something in our will. Sir, lett me desire you to doo me the favour to bey me a rideing-band and a ring as soone as you can with convenience, and send them by the next returne of our Hinckley-carrier, who lieth at the Rose, or Ram, in Smithfield: as for my band, I desire you to bey me a very good one, though it cost you 7 or 8 shillings, if you can not have one cheaper. Soe, desiring you to hasten into the country, lett you finde you deare in the straw, I rest, yours, Jo. ONEBYE."

"*June 20, 1667.* My ague has left me, by virtue of a chimicall powder, which a merchant gave me, which cured Thomas Onebye. I am informed that there are articles of peace constructed betwixt the French and us, which at present is not thought reasonable to publish. You may send to me to Somerset-house, at the countesse of Guilford's lodgings."

"Aug.

"*Aug. 17, 1668.* Yours of the 4th of July came not to my hands till the 15th of this instante. For the future, direct your letters to my lodgings at Somersett-house by the chappell. This spring I have had the judgment of the best physicians in towne; have taken much physicke, to destroy, and clear my body, from the reliëts of a quartan ague, which this summer hath much impaired my health; it having seized upon my spirits, and corrupted my whole masse of blood. The physicke I have taken hath much weakened my body; and what other good it hath done I know not. But, being advised for Tunbridge waters, where I have been this five weeks, I have received much good from them; my blood being cleared, and my spirits revived; and the ablest physicians there tell me, there is great hopes of my recovery; for Tunbridge waters, proceeding from an iron minerall, purges the spleen and the misenterium more than any other physicks can doe; but worthy and famous doctor Ridgely tells me, there is aliquid divinum in morbis; and in our bodies there is coelestis materia, and a quinta essentia. But, to conclude, health is the greatest blessing to us all."

"*Sept. 22, 1668.* My brother King writes me word, that Mr. Wollaston, who was joyned with us to finde a horse for the militia, hath shoven him a warrant from the deputy lieutenants to take him off. I pray you assist my brother King in that businesse, which he will tell you at large."

"*Sept. 26, 1668.* My wife is this 26th instant gone with my lady Gage to Hengrave by Berry, and will stay there about a moneth; soe that I am noebody but my selfe and my man; and, being much absent from my lodgings at present, direct your letters to Mr. Nun's, an apothecary, in the Strand, by Somersett-house."

"*Oct. 5, 1668.* Let me know if there be not some inclinations of Mr. Alfounder to marry my sister Wright."

"*Nov. 9, 1668.* This weeke I have bene at Newmarkett, and seen the trouble and expence the king and nobility gave themselves in their sports. What engaged me was sir Edward Gage at Hengrave (with whom my wife is,) whose lady at present will not parte with her, soe that I shall be a widdower for about a moneth longer. Assist honest Ben King in the businesse of the militia horse."

"*Nov. 18.* Your last letters come from you with soe much wisdom and kindnesse, that I believe you more than a brother, that is, a true friend; and shall now tell you a piece of news. My dear wife, which I and all my friends hitherto (by reason of severall accidents and things in the Queen Mother's court since our marriage) thought that her interest and fortune might not be what was expected; by her interest I have now an opportunity to get an estate; and, without bragg, my employments are more to me, and afford an yearly profit to me, far beyond my estate. Sir Robert Long hath made me one of the messengers of the Exchequer, and is putting me into his office. He is chiefe auditor for the king; in his hands are all the crown revenues and the treasury of England: by this means I have very good clyents, and great truste putt into my hands of Chequer debts, which is noe small profit to me; and am daily before his majesty's lords treasurers of his revenues, and at counsell-board; and at present all concerns

concerns of the king's revenues and treasury are, with very great judgment and advantage, managed by the lords commissioners, the lord Ashley Cowper, Moncke, sir Will. Coventry, sir Tho. Clifford, sir John Duncombe, secretaire Downeing, and sir Robert Long. Their commission hath the largest bounds as ever yett was given to subjects: it is thought, if the king permits them to sitt some few years, they will gett him out of debt. I pray you acquainte my mother with this news; and if it please God to continue my health and life, my businesse will every year be better to me. You will hear of a very great toleration given to the Nonconformists."

"*Dec. 3.* I have ordered my cousen Burdett of Mousely to manage and receive my rents at Gumley; the man hath parts enough, if he will be but honest and carefull. I suppose you will often have opportunity to see him; order him to give you his account of my estate, and an exact terriall of the lands; what seed every yard-land sows; what hay it cuts; what sheep and beast common belongs to a yard-land; and what the home closes of every living is worth; and to have his judgment how many acres belong to a yard-land, as he may guess; by which you may understand what a cheap pennyworth I had for £3000.; thanke Mr. Oneby! When you have seen this parte of the Gumley estate, send it me. My businesse at present in the Exchequer, is to auditt the debts charged by the king and the lords commissioners of the treasury uppon the eleven moneths assignment, the additional aydes, and the hearth-money; and I meete with very good bargaines uppon Exchequer debts, that if I had £2000. by me, I could make £10. per cent. with better security than the Corporation of Leicester can give to the creditor."

"*Dec. 31, 1668.* I had rather my sister would send up 6 tongs in lew of her colar of braune; for my wife and I doe not much love it. Lett honest Mall bey as much flaxen cloath as will make my wife 6 shifts or smocks: lett it be the finest flax shee can bey, and well bleached."

"*Feb. 27.* I shall have a very good businesse for you to acte for my lord Arlington, who hath bought Beby in Leicestershire; which you shall here of in a little time. The king hath appointed to be at Newmarkett the 8th of March, there to continue ten dayes, when most of the nobility and gentry will be there. I suppose I shall be obliged to be there uppon some businesse with the king; my lord Denbigh will be there; and I shall have some businesse with him if you will meete me. I will send you a letter to my lord Denbigh, and you may come to Newmarkett with him without charge. My lord the duke of Albemarle is very much indisposed with lethargicall distempers, and his life is doubted by the physicians. I want a clerke. My brother Ashby hath commended one to me; write two words to him, to send him to you with all expedition; and, if you like him, draw an obligation of £200. for his brother and him to seal, with condition for his good behaviour and honesty, and then send him up to me by the carrier. I thanke God I am fallen into profitable employments.—My lord Roberts of the privie seal goes lord leifetenant for Ireland,"

"*March*

" *March 8.* As to Flude for a clerke, I thanke you for your relation and plainnesse as to him; but shall not make use of him, for nothing is more odious than one that covetts drinke. As to my lord Arlington's businesse, it is this. He hath bought the lordship of Beby; and, in order to prevent the falling of his rents, he would prevent the incloeing of such lordships in the open feilds that border upon Beby, which is Croson, Keame, and Barkby: now, if you could send me any particulars of any estates that would be sold in those townes, it would doe my businesse. Mr. Stringer, my lord's steward, will be with you in Aprill; but, if you can send me any particulars before that time, you will doe well. It is the report this day, that the duke of Albemarle is dangerously sicke, and it is thought past recovery. I suppose you hear the cause of sir William Coventry's commitment and confinement to the Tower: he hath petitioned the king for his liberty. The businesse of my lord mayor's sword being pulled downe by the Templars, upon Mr. Reader's invitation, was yesterday moved at the counsell-board; but as yett noe resolution in the case. To-morrow the great bishop of Chester preaches at White-hall; the onely favorite of the clergy. I expect businesse from the lords commissioners to the king at Newmarkett the next weeke; but shall be there but two or three days."

" *1670, April 11.* I am now goeing out of Somersett-house; for the Queen hath commanded every soul out, and hath lent the house to madam Henrietta, the king's sister, who in very few dayes will bee in England; I have taken a very good house of my owne, which looks into St. James's Parke, to which you shall be very welcome when you come to towne. I have in my thoughts a very good wife for you when you come up."

" *Aug. 7, 1671.* I have here inclosed a copy from the auditors for the fee-farmes for Leicestershire, which cost me 10s. I enquired of Mr. Blany and Mr. Lightfoote, who manage the sales; they tell mee, they have had severall discourses with many, but have made noe contracte but onely to colonell Titus for Leicestershire; and there is an alderman in towne hath bidd money for the whole fee-farmes in that county, but at present he is off. Sir Henrage Finch is a purchaser for his own fee-farmes. The Judges likewise are purchasers; which gives great credit to the sales and title. If you manage this businesse as I told you, you may make it a considerable gaine, and improve your money to above £10. per cent. The wisest and soberest men in towne are precedents for you in this case; but no more till I see you, which I hope may be aboute three weekes hence; but, if you would offer any thing in the interim, lett me here from you. The king and quene are going a progresse, to Audley Inn, Norridge, Cambridge, &c. to visit those parts."

" *Sept. 18, 1671.* Upon the 28th of September, I shall be at Leicester; where I shall stay onely Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. I praye you give my sister King and my sister Wright notice to dine with me at my mother Oneby's on Michaelmas-day. When I am with you, I shall give you an accompt of the businesse of the fee-farmes, which now comes uppon the stage to be acted; therefore, if you will doe any thing, be prepared against I come. Noe news in towne,

towne, but the great alteration the king hath made in putting out the new forme of the customes, and putting in commissioners of his owne to acte that businesse. The Coast is very busie in preparing for their journey."

"*Oct. 17, 1671.* I am this day going to Newmarkett in haste."

"*Jan. 6, 1671-2.* His majestie having put a stop to some payments of the Excise and Customes in the Exchequer, hath caused the Banke to put a stop to their payments in Lombard-streete: which at present hath made a greates noyse and confusion. But his majesties declaration is now in the presse, and you will have it on Saturday at Leicester; whereby I hope all things will be well, only the trade of Lombard-street and the Banke will never have so great credit againe. It's thought there will bee a Dutch warr, and the duke of Yorke goes to sea with the earle of Sandwich and sir George Aikew; and we have great expectation of action next former. I have given you many troubles in my little concernes in the country, for which I shall take care to be handsome in my reward."

"*Feb. 2, 1671-2.* Wee have sent waggons downe to Rye, to bring up to towne £180,000. which is arrived there from France. We have news that the Dutch are very potent at sea, and will be out as soone as the weather will give them leave. The duke of Monmouth is preparing for France, and hath chosen his officers.—Doe mee the favour to borrow £300. for the Pagetts; there is three or four of them will be bound in a bond for it, which, my cosen Onby will tell you, are all of them responsible and solvent men; they are to pay mee the mony, and you will doe me a very great kindnes in it; and I will see you paid £5. for your paines; for, upon stopping up the Exchequer, I have occasion for mony."

"*March 23, 1671-2.* I shall take care to commend Natt Wright to sober company and good students, and what else is convenient. Love to my sister Wright."

"*—, 1672.* I have received £70. in parte of Pagett's money; order all your receipts to be paid to my wife in the mornings, for shee is never at home in an afternoone.—As to news, my lord Lauderdale and my lord Arlington are appointed commissioners to treat with the Dutch ambassador, who hath given neither the king nor them any satisfaction. Sir Edward Spragg and sir Robert Holmes are cruising on the coasts for prizes. Wee conclude the warr here as begun; the duke and the earle of Sandwich goe presently to sea: wee shall, in a little time, sett forth 50 saile of shippes, well victualled, well manned, well every thing, if it please God to give victory."

"*Feb. 22, 1672-3.* This week the Court have made themselves very merry with the diversifements of maske-array habitt; and are now talking how to diversifie themselves at Newmarkett. I doubt we shall have a very bloody summer, by reason all Christian princes have great armies, and make great preparacions for warr. By virtue of a reference from the counsell-board, the judges will either regulate or putt downe coffee-houses."

"*June 19, 1673.* This day we have a new lord treasures, who was sir Thomas Osborne, and is now made a peer; the court made it, *in mutatis mutandis.*"

"*October*

" *October 4, 1673.* Lett me desire you to accomplish the getting my Stockeing-clothes inclosed, upon the same considerations as my father had; and tell the townsmen of Hinckley, I hope to serve them more, in getting the small toll taken off, by getting two more faires for the towne, if they please to make me a proposition what they would have done, and if your advice thinke it reasonable, without which I shall not acte. I know Michaelmas-time is a busie time with you in keeping the courts; lett me desire you to advise with Mr. Scampton, who knows Hinckley-men best, in this businesse; and, except he will promise to stand clear, and be a friend to the businesse, it is in vaine for you to endeavor it; if you will use your endeavors in this matter, you must goe to Hinckley the night before, and prepare the businesse; and, if you thinke good, take Natt Wright along with you, who, I believe, will talke for his uncle; if you accomplish the premises, I will make your sonne a present when he comes to towne, as I promised, or else I will give it yourselfe. As to Will Burdet, lay your commands upon him to be honest in his accompts in Burton and Gumley businesse, and to gett me what money he can against he comes to London. As to news, read the Gazette and Middyman's Letters; for the time and chance in warr is such that poses and opposes all projects and policies. And what I tolde you in the country of the French, you will finde will prove true, &c. Pray you lett me have two words from you, which way you intend to manage Hinckley businesse, by Saturday's post. My wife, maddam Fielding, and Doll Wright, are all at your service.—Engage my cousen Oncbye to be with you at the court-lect—*Via unita fortior.*"

" *Oct. 25, 1673.* This bearer, my schoole-fellow, Everard Walton, will tell you my policy and case in my Stockeing-clothe businesse; lett him have a perticuler warrant from you to bring any of Hinckley before you, that require the binding to the peace and good behavior, and for headg-breakeing, &c.; and doe not execute justice in haste, but lett them stay all night to spend their money at an ale-house, which is a just reward to them that break the peace and behavior. My lord chancellor tells me I shall be your brother justice the next tearm. Lett me have your advice how far you can serve me in the premises. Pay my mother Oncbye £6. and I will pay it to your order here in towne. My wife is very well pleased with her priests and confessors in France. For news, take Middyman's Letter; *lege, age.*"

" ——— Deare Neece; I have sent you doune a shap; it is broun and whit, as good one as I ever ded see, and much better upon yellow than purpel and whit; beside, most sasonable ladys weare non but broun and whit, or all broun. This is not a liver-cullared broun, but one of the best cullars I have sene; it cost £1. 7s. I hope you have recollected yourselfe; for here hath been noebody to pay me any money, but Mr. Cary, from my neece Brudenell, for things she had at Easter last: and yours was sent doune the weeke before Whit-sunday. As for the money, I ded not write to you for it, believing when you had occacions for more things it would be time anouse. I thinke I cannot make noe mistake, for I am shuer I cannot remember any one payed me sence you had the last things. I have sent a note of
what

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what they come to. My most humble servis to my brother Staveley ;
and am, deare neece, your humble servant and aunt,

M. ONEBY.

A pere of silver buckells cost	-	-	-	£. 6	4	0
A whit hud and a black one cost	-	-	-	0	4	6
Six yards and a half of gold and striped filke, at	-	-	-	4	10	0
A yard of silver lace	-	-	-	0	8	0
The porter to carry it to the carrier's	-	-	-	0	0	6
A shape for a petycoat	-	-	-	1	7	0
Two yards of riben	-	-	-	0	1	6
Paid the porter to carrie your lace to the carrier's	-	-	-	0	0	6
In all	-	-	-	6	16	0

"Direct, for the Lady Oneby, at Mr. Chapman's, a beer-brewer,
in Dean's Yard, behind Westminster-Abbey."

It may be sufficient once for all to observe, that the biographical remarks, anecdotes, and illustrations, in this volume, are in general very curious, and communicated with no parsimonious hand. The account of Mr. Russell in particular, at p. 781, we estimate very highly.

In this History of Leicestershire, a work so extensive in its nature, and of such laborious investigation, much assistance has in course been required, and much has been obtained. The able and liberal assistance of Mr. Russell, a late rector of Sadington, has already been acknowledged in the Preface. To him I owe the whole of the History of the feudal Barls of Leicester; which his many literary accomplishments, his knowledge of the manners and customs of antiquity, his exactness of judgment, his classical learning, and his patient industry, peculiarly qualified him to write. How excellently Mr. Russell's important part of this undertaking is performed, those who are the most intimately acquainted with the English Constitution will be best able to judge. His whole life, indeed, was chiefly spent in the acquisition of general knowledge, and in the pursuit of the studies more immediately belonging to his profession. His distinguished abilities deservedly gained him a high reputation, amongst those who had the happiness of his acquaintance, as an excellent and polite scholar; his conversation was lively and agreeable; and when any particular subject required elucidation, his mode of arguing was perspicuous; and his language, though uttered with rapidity, was accurate and nervous. To a warm benevolence, and an undisguised and open heart, he united a vivacity of temper, which was perhaps encouraged by a life of celibacy, and might have been softened by the mild influence of conjugal society.

"It was for some years the amusement of his leisure-hours to superintend a small farm, where he practically studied the principles of vegetation, and the various properties of soils. The intelligence he acquired, he freely communicated to others, and thereby gave encouragement and assistance to the great improvements that have, within a short period, been made in the system of agriculture. "Nihil est agriculturâ melius; nihil uberius; nihil dulcius; nihil homine libero dignius."

"The

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" The following epitaph was found among his papers, in his own hand-writing, and with this introduction :

" My epitaph, on a marble slab, in the chancel of Sadington,

6 Nov. 1793,

S. R."

" Siste paulisper, Viator,
dum te docet optimus ille præceptor,
sepulchræ saxum.

Ecce ad pedes tuos jacet,
Heu ! fordido pulvere obrutus et commixtus ;
(reminscere quantum sis)

SAMBROOK NICOLAUS RUSSELL, A. M.
et clericus olim à domesticis

AMELIÆ ALTISSIMÆ FILLÆ GEORGII II.

Si petas unde ortus ; ingenuus
per longam stirpem ; et, quod
melius, bonis creatus.

Si cultum quæras ; in pueritiâ,
WINTONIÆ inter WICCANICOS ;
postea, adultâ ætate,
in Academiâ Oxoniensi
inter Reginenses,
humanis et sacris literis
feliciter imbutus.

Primo propè BASINGSTOKIAM
in *Sant-bawtoniens* agro,
ubi natus fuit, septem circiter annis ;
deinde LONDINIS, præcipuè
in parochiâ Sanctæ Mariz
le Bourne, quinque ferme lustris ;
demum in ecclesiis suis ruralibus,
clericales exercuit curas ;
et ibi consenuit, et occubuit.

Summam navabat operam,
ut esset integer vita scelerisque purus,
urbanus, literatus, decens, pius, sapiens.

Quantum profecerit, alii judicent,
qui melius norint ipsum,
quam ipse se."

" His executor has attentively complied with what appears to have been his evident intention ; and it is hoped, that the memory of a worthy man will be sufficiently protected from any suspicion of vanity, in writing his own epitaph, by the frequency of the practice, the known truth of the facts recorded in the inscription, and especially by the modesty, as well as the elegance, of its conclusion.

" On a slab on the floor the date of his death is thus recorded :

" H. S. E.

Sambrook Nicholas Russell, M. A.
hujusce ecclesiæ rector.
Obiit xxix die Novembris,
anno Domini mdcxcv.
ætatis suæ lxiij."

The

The statistical remarks also, by Mr. Tailby, are given with much intelligent observation, and greatly deserve notice.

" I am favoured by Mr. Tailby, whose residence on the spot and peculiar attention to these researches have enabled him to be minutely accurate, with what he modestly calls ' a heterogeneous composition, a sort of statistical account of Medbourne, formed by adapting his own researches and ideas to the plan suggested by sir John Sinclair,' to whom, were the patriot Baronet's ' Statistical Remarks' to be extended over the Southern part of the Island, Mr. Tailby would willingly (and I am sure very ably; be an active assistant :

" Medbourne is situated at the West foot of a large and lofty hill, by some writers (as I have heard) called the first Mountain in the East of England. Its situation is healthy, though low, as the longevity of its inhabitants can testify. A brook runs slowly through the town, formed by three inconsiderable streams, two of which rise in Hallaton, and the third in Slaughton lordship. This brook, about half a mile below the town, empties itself into the river Welland, which divides the Counties of Leicester and Northampton.

" Number of Houses, and State of Population.

" The village at this time consists of 102 inhabited houses (including the parish workhouse) and five uninhabited; 461 inhabitants, (including men, women, and children), of which 228 are males, and 233 are females: of these, in the workhouse are 11 only, 4 males and 7 females.

" It appears by the registers, that in 5 years, beginning with 1694, there were 31 baptized, and 51 buried; for five years, beginning with 1784, there were 68 baptized, and 69 buried; and for 5 years, beginning with 1792, there were 65 baptized, and 61 buried. Of the burials the last 5 years, 7 were from Holt, 1 from Bradley, and 1 from Blaxton.

" During the last month, and within two days of each other, the oldest man and woman of Medbourne both died; the man was nearly 90 years, and the woman 83 years of age. The man has left, now living, a wife, one son, and two daughters, whose ages amount to 267 years.

" There are at this time living in this town six stout men and women, aged from 80 to 83 years.

" In the last 5 years are 18 marriage entries.

" The houses are in general well-built, of wrought yellowish stone, inclining to red, dug from the quarries in the hill under which the town stands; and many of them are very genteel and commodious for a country village. None being built almost circular, except three near to the East, there is a considerable open space in the midst of the town, which is called The Green. In this open space, and adjoining the brook, are two or three clusters of small though decent houses, all of which, excepting three, are appropriated to the use of paupers. One of these clusters, consisting of ten houses, is, as it were, an island, and especially so in time of floods, and as such, time immemorial, has obtained the name of *Guernsey*.

" The

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" The roads here are brought to a great degree of perfection (compared with the adjacent places), owing to the attention of the farmers, and goodness of the materials, which this field produces in great plenty.

" Professions, Trades, &c.

" The field is divided into 14 farms, occupied at this time by 10 resident farmers; 12 cottages, occupied by 4 labourers in husbandry and 8 tradesmen. The number of different working-tradesmen are,

Carpenters	-	-	7	Miller	-	-	-	1
Wheelwright	-	-	1	Bakers	-	-	-	2
Blacksmiths	-	-	2	Linen-weavers	-	-	-	3
Masons	-	-	3	Tammy-weavers and }	} - 12			
Shoe-makers	-	-	8	Combers of jarley				
Tailors	-	-	5	Alehouse-keepers	-	-	-	4
Shopkeepers, &c.	-	-	6	Fellmongers	-	-	-	2

" Here are five malt-offices, in which upwards of a thousand quarters of malt have been annually made for some years past.

" About the years 1781 was established a Sick Club, or Friendly Society; the members are at this time 48 in number; they are of Medbourne and the adjacent villages; but the meetings of the club are always held here.

" Present State of Agriculture, &c.

" This lordship, which consists of about 1800 acres, is open field, and consequently is interspersed with arable, ley, meadow, and common ground. Cosmas Nevill, of Holt, esq. is the principal proprietor, and lord of the manor. The late Mr. Robert Green, of this place, and his son Mr. Green of Leicester, owned together nearly an equal portion with Mr. Nevill.

" The arable land N. W. of the town, where the Roman coins, &c. are found, is in general a rich, deep, black soil, the plough seldom touching the clay, and is supposed to be the best open field arable land in the county. The other arable land has a larger share of clay; but is in general productive of good crops of wheat, barley, and beans. The ley-ground is in general fruitful of herbage, both for summer and winter food for cattle. Part of the meadows are very good; and part indifferent.

" The unknown common land is weak, sterile, and cold; what herbage it produces is often prejudicial to beasts, by causing them to stale blood in summer; and is dispersed amongst the gorse, black-thorn, brier, and bramble shrubs. These shrubs, of which there are great quantities, are deemed the property of the poor, who have liberty to fetch what they please, and to use or sell in the town to the best customer they can get.

" The land upon the hill is a light, shallow, red soil, intermixed with small stone, and is convertible land.

" The common course of husbandry for a few years past, within this part of the field, has been as follows: The first spring it is broken up, and sowed with oats; next year winter-ploughed and sowed with oats the second time the succeeding spring; and then layed down with red and white clover and rye-grass, and eaten with sheep for three or four

foot years; and then broke up again, and cropped as before. It produces large quantities of oats per acre in general; and, had they the opportunity of sowing it with turnips the third year instead of clover, it would undoubtedly be more productive in barley and wheat to the farmer than in the oat-crops.

This hill produces sand, good building, road, and lime stone; of the latter there is not much burnt here either for building or manure. In the first case, Barrow-lime can be procured almost as cheap, and in point of use preferable; and for manure, it is never used in this field. Experiments were made last year in Hallaton and Slaughton lordships with Medbourne-lime as manure; but, as the crops are now only in an early growth, I cannot determine its utility at present.

"The course of husbandry in the lower fields is as follows: first year, wheat or barley; second, beans; third, fallow, and manured with yard-dung, or folded with sheep, and sometimes both dung and fold on the same land; for the farmers here let not the geniality of the soil be a handle to sloth or negligence; but (finding their interest in it) its prolific earth is a spur to their natural industry."

Nothing now remains for us, but thus to inform the author and the public; that his labours on Leicestershire, great as they have already been, do but stimulate our curiosity. We esteem it singularly fortunate for the world of literature, that individuals are continually arising among us, who, like Mr. Gough, whose labours we noticed with the praise they merited, in the beginning of our last number, and Mr. Nichols, whose exertions in the cause of all that we venerate are indefatigable, are the more animated by difficulty, and strengthened by the continuity of perseverance. We say to them both,

*Ergo agite et letum cuncti celeberrimus honorem;
Pollicamur Ventos—*

ART. II. *The Rural Economy of the West of England; including Devonshire, and Parts of Somersetshire, Dorsetshire, and Cornwall, together with Minutes in Practice. By Mr. Marshall. In Two Volumes. 8vo. 12s. Nicols. 1796.*

MR. MARSHALL has long since obtained, by various useful publications*, the character of an acute observer, and an able and experienced judge of rural affairs. He maintains

* *Rural Economy of Norfolk, of Yorkshire, of Gloucestershire, and of the Midland Counties; and a treatise on Planting and Rural Ornament.*

that character in the volume before us ; but as a writer, he is open to some objections. Specimens from the work will exhibit conspicuously both his merits and his defects ; and will supersede the necessity of any strong commendation, or of much censure from us. The advertisement prefixed demands, however, some previous attention.

The suggestion of " a Board of Agriculture, or, more generally, of rural affairs," appears to have come originally from Mr. Marshall, (vol. i. p. xxvii). The establishment of this Board, and the surveys of counties which in consequence were made and published, at first alarmed the author's friends and bookseller (but not himself it seems) lest the use of his own registers should be superseded (p. xxvi). He gave his assistance, however, to the Board, by presenting a report of the central highlands of Scotland. And in requital of this liberality, he luckily found, that

" The Board's Reports might be rendered more immediately serviceable to his work, in assisting to fill up the vacant interstices of his Registers ; and thereby to make them more worthy, than otherwise they would have been, of the title he wishes them collectively to deserve ; namely, *an Authentic Register of the Rural Economy of England, at the close of the Eighteenth Century.*" Vol. i. p. xxix.

In the introductory remarks, some just objections are urged against prosecuting an agricultural survey by *counties*. The " repetition it requires, and the superfluous volumes it gives rise to," are among those objections. Very valid ones they are, as we can attest ; and they have, probably, operated strongly towards producing the late determination of the Board to suspend those surveys.

Mr. M. is a strong advocate for the *union* of agriculture and manufactures.

" It is worthy of remark, that, notwithstanding the wages of the country are low, as will hereafter appear, the parish rates are moderate. In Buckland, and the contiguous parishes, the poor's rate, on a par, is not more than two shillings in the pound, sack rent.

" This fact, perhaps, may be the best accounted for, in the circumstance of the wool, which the country produces, being manufactured within it : not, however, in public manufactories, by the dissolute of every age and sex, drawn together from all quarters, as if for the purpose of promoting dissoluteness, debility, and wretchedness ; but in private families ; by men, women, and children, who, by this employment, are kept at their own houses, are enured to habits of industry, are enabled to support themselves, at all seasons, and are always at hand, to assist in the works of husbandry, whenever the production, or the preservation, of the necessities of life requires their assistance.

" Manufactures carried on, in this rational manner, are highly beneficial to a country : while those which are prosecuted by detached bodies

bodies of people, in towns, or populous manufactories, may be considered as one of the greatest evils any country can be afflicted with.

"Many substantial reasons might be adduced to shew, that *Agriculture and Manufacture should go hand in hand.*" Vol. i, p. 50.

The fences in West Devonshire are too curious to pass unnoticed by us.

"Nothing marks the rural management of this extremity of the Island more strongly, than the CONSTRUCTION of its farm fences.

"The bank or foundation of a Devonshire "hedge" is a mound of earth, eight, ten, or more feet wide, at the base, and sometimes nearly as much in height; narrowing to six, seven, or more feet wide, at the top; which is covered with coppice woods, as Oak, Ash, Sallow, Birch, Hazel. These are cut, as coppice wood, at fifteen or twenty years growth, and at more, perhaps, than twenty feet high, beside the height of the mound; together forming a barrier, perhaps thirty feet in height.

"A stranger, unaware of this practice, considers himself as travelling perpetually in deep hollow ways; passing on, for miles, perhaps, without being able to see out of them; though the most delightful scenery may have accompanied him. Vol. i, p. 65.

"The ADVANTAGES of coppice fences are those of being an insuperable barrier to stock,—of affording extraordinary shelter and shade to pasturing animals,—of giving a necessary supply of fuel, in a country where no other fuel than wood can, at present, be compassed by farmers,—and of being, with ordinary care in repairing them, everlasting. Instead of mouldering away, and growing less as they increase in age, the swelling of the roots, the falling of leaves, and decayed boughs, and the shovellings of their bases thrown upon their tops with fresh soils brought from a distance, perhaps, to make good accidental breaches, tend to increase, rather than to diminish, the mounds; so that the bulkiness of some of the old hedges may be owing to time, rather than to the original formation.

"The DISADVANTAGES of the Devonshire hedges are their first cost, and the quantity of ground they occupy, and injure, by their drip and shade, and by the soil used in their formation: Five and twenty feet is the least that can be reckoned, for the width of waste. The injury they do to arable crops, in preventing a free circulation of air; and their being liable to be torn down by cattle, when the adjoining field is in a state of pasture, are other disadvantages." Vol. i, p. 67.

To avaricious landlords, advice like the following may be very useful.

"Among candidates, at auctions, for letting farms, are generally adventurers, who want judgment, and men of desperate fortunes, who want a temporary subsistence; and these men will ever be the highest bidders; will ever outbid men of judgment and capital; such as will pay their rent, keep up their repairs, and improve the land; and such as ought ever to be, and ever are, the choice of judicious managers of estates. There is a fair market price for farms, as for their produce; and

and no man is fit to be entrusted with the management of an estate, who cannot ascertain the value of its lands, and who, having ascertained this, does not prefer a man of judgment and capital, to any nominal rent, which speculation can offer him. It may be said, with little latitude, that, in the end, it is equally detrimental to an estate, to overrent it, as it is to let it beneath its fair rental value. This is an axiom of management which is well known to every man of landed property, who has persevered in paying attention to his own affairs; and which has cost some men no small share of property, respectability, and peace of mind, to come at the knowledge of." Vol. i, p. 74.

The importance of the *larch tree*, and the advantages of planting it in those soils and situations which are adapted to it, have lately been much insisted on, and are confirmed by the following short extract.

"Seeing with almost moral certainty, that the Larch, in times to come, will be a principal article of Ship building, in this Island, it is highly probable that whoever now propagates it, will exceedingly enhance the value of his estate." Vol. i, p. 87.

"The style of DRIVING an Ox team, here, is observable; indeed cannot pass unnoticed by a stranger. The language though in a great degree peculiar to the country, does not arrest the attention; but the tone, or rather tune, in which it is delivered. It resembles, with great exactness, the chantings, or recitative of the Cathedral service. The plow boy chants the counter tenor, with unabated ardour through the day; the plowman throwing in, at intervals, his hoarser notes. It is understood that this chanting march, which may sometimes be heard to a considerable distance, encourages and animates the team, as the music of a marching army, or the song of the rowers. Let this be as it may, I have never seen so much cheerfulness attending the operation of plowing, anywhere, as in Devonshire." Vol. i, p. 116.

The following suggestion can hardly be repeated too often, or too strongly insisted on.

"ACCURATE ANALYSES OF WATERS, whose effects are known, as MANURES, are very much to be desired. That different waters are as various, in their effects on vegetation, as distinct vegetable and animal substances are, must be evident to every one who has made extensive observations on these effects. And CHEMISTRY cannot bestow on AGRICULTURE more valuable assistance, than in prosecuting enquiries of this nature." Vol. i, p. 209.

At pp. 285-6, a good intimation is, with proper respect, offered to Magistrates, concerning the enforcement of the law relating to roads and guide-posts. In many districts of the kingdom with which we are acquainted, this law seems to be a dead letter. Guide-posts in particular, that great and cheap accommodation to the public, seem to be unthought of; though the numerous inclosures which have lately taken place, render them more necessary than ever.

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There is too much justice in a remonstrance against manufactures at p. 290.

"An evidence of the mischiefs which MANUFACTURES are capable of entailing on Agriculture, stands conspicuous, at present, (1791) in this District.

"Some years since, a woollen manufactory, of considerable extent, was set on foot, at Modbury, and carried on with spirit, and with success to the individuals who prosecuted it. But their end being answered, the manufacture ceased, and all the vice and debility, which it had drawn together, were left as a load upon the parish. The consequence of which is, I am informed, the Occupiers of Lands, within the Township of Modbury, are now paying five shillings in the pound, to the poor, while those of the surrounding parishes, do not pay two shillings."

While persons, *likely to become chargeable*, were removable to their settlements, we have known bonds of indemnity given by manufacturers to parishes, to prevent the removal of their workmen. But this liability (together with that of a compulsory examination) being taken away, by 35 Geo. iii. c. 101, poor persons will generally die leaving their settlements unknown; and a new manufacture, established in any parish, will surely entail upon the lands within it a most heavy burthen. Humane, and seemingly just as this act is, the consequences of it will be very serious, after a few years; but they might easily be obviated by an amendment, for the purpose of *ascertaining settlements*.

From p. 308 to 317, the numerous and important improvements of which South Devonshire is susceptible, are brought together into one view.

Vol. ii, p. 15. A few plain words, from a man whose travels in England have been so extensive, and his observations so accurate as those of Mr. M. constitute a high panegyric upon the prosperity of our country.—"Temple (in Cornwall) a deserted village! *the only one I have ever seen*." He subjoins—"Goldsmith must have travelled this road!" Had Goldsmith written in prose, and maintained his veracity, it seems he must. But a poet's imagination outstrips all travellers, and possibility, not fact, in that with which he is concerned.

"What most disgusts a stranger, in travelling through Cornwall, is the inordinate number of its boroughs." This is somewhat fanciful. We apprehend that a stranger, travelling through the country, especially in pursuit of agricultural knowledge, would not possibly be incommoded by these boroughs, except at the eve of a general election; at which season, if a *radical reform* should annihilate those boroughs,
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we would ask in what part of the kingdom a stranger would travel, without finding equal causes of disgust?

"The mile-stones shamefully defaced; but how easy to remedy the defect, with paint." P. 201. It would be better to prevent this mischief, by authorizing trustees of turnpikes to place mile-stones within any grounds, not being garden, instead of placing them in the highway; and to plash the fence, so as to expose them sufficiently to view. "The name of the village, on a board, at the entrance of 'Beckington:' a liberal act in those who placed it there." P. 210. In some parts of the kingdom, the name of each parish is put upon every mile-stone; a cheap, convenient, and useful regulation. At p. 220, we meet with a violent invective against poor *horses*; and with a proposal of such an extravagant tax upon them, as would infallibly banish them, not only from husbandry, but from every stable and pasture in the kingdom.

"Of *bees* I observed but one solitary hive! In the long line of country, between Cornwall and Wiltshire, I do not recollect to have seen more than half a dozen of those industrious families!—whose labors are clear gain to a country,—who contribute to the national stock without diminishing any other article of its produce." Vol. ii. p. 222.

The reluctance of rustics to adopt any improvements, is shrewdly proposed to be overcome in this way; "by adopting the general construction of the fashionable plow of the country, whether it be the wheel, the foot, or the swing plow; only altering the proportions, and giving the operative parts the requisite cast." P. 255.

"The landed interest, which has lain neglected and trampled on by commerce and manufactures, until the country is no longer able to provide sustenance for its inhabitants." P. 306. The author seems to misapprehend this question. The fact, as we conceive, is, that commerce and manufactures have so greatly increased the population of the kingdom, that, on *this* account, the country cannot sustain its inhabitants without a correspondent improvement of its agriculture; but the increased demand for the produce of the land, and the concomitant increased value of it, should preclude, in some degree, the complaint, that it "has been neglected, and trampled on, by commerce and manufactures."

"The Florists of this district have an effectual and ready way of DESTROYING EARTH WORMS, in their knots and borders; by the means of an infusion of walnut-tree leaves. The process is this:—fill a vessel nearly full, with leaves, gathered in the first or second week of September;—cover them with water, and let them stand two or three days, until the water has acquired a blackish green color. With this infusion,

infusion, the beds and alleys are watered, by means of the common watering pot. The worms presently rise to the surface, and die in apparent agony.

"It strikes me that this interesting fact may be turned to a profitable purpose, in the forming of DRINKING POOLS. It is probable, that leaves of the walnut, spread under the clay, would have the same effect as the lime, which is now in use.

"Reflecting on this subject, it appears to me further probable, that the use of clay, in making pools, may be dispensed with. Thus:—form the basin; puddle with the best of the excavated mold; strew on leaves; and pave with liquid mortar; made up with their infusion;—if required.

"The basin form of the pit is an objection to puddling; and could not, perhaps, be effected otherways, than progressively with the pavement; by puddling above each ring, and bedding the stones in the medicated matter; pouring in liquid cement, where it might appear to be wanted. Or, perhaps, the medicated batter would in itself be sufficient.

"This is a subject of great importance, in upland situations. Forming drinking pools with clay and lime (great as was the discovery) is difficult and expensive; and any means of simplifying the process would be valuable." Vol. ii, p. 315.

We have produced an ample quantity of specimens, by which these volumes may be recommended to the friends of agriculture. Our notice of their faults will be brief and plain. In general, they are so very diffuse in point of style, and so adroitly managed by the printer, that a moderate quantity of matter is made to occupy a great number of pages. Much of the second volume is a mere recital of what was seen during some hasty journies, without any enquiry or useful deductions whatever. In a work like this, would any man expect or desire to meet with those rhetorical flourishes, which are by some persons esteemed fine writing? Such as, "the elevated summits of the mountains, arresting the fleets of vapours, as they arrive *heavy* laden from the Atlantic." Vol. i, p. 11.—"Rural economics comprise three subjects, distinct in their more essential parts, but closely connected in their ramifications; which blend in such a manner, as to unite the whole in one connected subject, and form the most useful branch of human knowledge." P. 53.—"Little more than censure can be fairly attached to it." P. 88.—"Some few individuals are struggling to break through the thick crust of prepossession, under which the country seems to have been long bound down*." P. 106.

* Is this a ludicrous allusion to the childrens' song, of "Four and twenty black-birds all in a pye;—and when the pye was open they all began to sing?"

P. 306. "Lands subject to aration."—Vol. ii, p. 100. "The passing vapours that are sufficiently buoyant to elude the attractive powers of the more westerly mountains, travel undisturbed over this passage of depressed surface."—"The spring waters are of ameliorative quality, and are partially and inaccurately led over the grass lands."

Indulgence being granted for these failings, we commend the work as likely to contribute very materially to the improvement of husbandry within the district to which it relates, and in some respects throughout the kingdom in general.

A list is subjoined to the first volume, of "rates (prices, or wages) in West Devonshire, of buildings, wood-land produce, and husbandry;" and another list of "Provincialisms," within the same district; among which we perceive a few that are familiar in the midland and northern counties of England.

ART. III. *A Journal of Natural Philosophy, Chemistry, and the Arts; illustrated with Engravings. By William Nicholson. Volume I. 4to. 600 pp. 1l. 13s. 6d. Robinsons. 1798.*

THIS volume contains twelve numbers of a monthly publication, which numbers have been published between April, 1797, and April, 1798.

In the preface we are told, that this work is to contain

"Whatever the activity of men of science or of art may bring forward, of invention or improvement, in any country or nation; within the possibility of being procured, by means as respectable as the motives that call for them, shall appear in this Journal; either in the form of short notices, or the full descriptions of their respective authors, or the more ample report deduced from actual visitation and enquiry."

And with respect to the materials, that

"The leading character on which the selection of objects will be grounded is utility; and, next to this, novelty and originality."

On a careful examination of the book we find, that the greatest part of its contents has been extracted from other publications; such as the Transactions of the Royal Society of London, the transactions of other scientific societies, periodical journals, and other books.

With respect to most of those articles, we have already declared our opinion in the particular accounts we have given of the books from which they have been extracted. But we may add, that many of them appear in Mr. Nicholson's Journal under an abridged form, and that the abridgment is in general sufficiently clear and comprehensive.

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The rest of the contents are such, as had never appeared in print previously to the publication of this Journal. Of them, many are rather of a trifling nature; though some there certainly are, that may be called good or useful. But while we acknowledge the propriety of the abridgments, or the usefulness of some of the original articles, we would not be understood to assert our entire approbation of a work which professes to extract, and, as it were, to monopolize the beauties of all the modern scientific publications. Had Mr. N. confined his Journal to the collection of new articles only, the work would have been useful to the public, and might have proved profitable to himself; nor could the authors or proprietors of other publications have possibly objected to it.

There certainly are several persons, who have not the means of purchasing, or of borrowing, the new scientific publications, and who may nevertheless be desirous of following, in some measure, the progress of arts and sciences; and to such persons this book may prove useful and pleasing.

Each number of the Journal contains from six to thirteen articles, and one, or two, or three copper-plate engravings; besides a mathematical correspondence, which in most of the numbers consists of two or three questions proposed, and two or three answers. There is also a short account of new books and other notices.

We shall now briefly point out such of the new or original articles as seem more deserving of notice, and shall with them conclude the account of this Journal.

In page 56 and following, we find a very good paper, "On the Methods of obviating the Effects of Heat and Cold in Time-Pieces."

This paper may be of use to watch-makers in the construction of what is still in want of improvement, namely, the compensation, or thermometrical parts of time-keepers. Yet we might wish that Mr. N. would endeavour to collect more particulars relative to this subject, and to communicate them to the public in a future number. What is mostly required, is the knowledge of a compound or simple metal more expansible than brass, and of some other metal less expansible than steel; as also the rates of expansion in different metals and metallic compounds; for they do not, in general, expand uniformly. The article next to this, contains "Observations and Experiments on the Light, Expence, and Construction of Lamps and Candles, and the Probability of rendering Tallow a substitute for Wax."

Though this article contains nothing remarkable in point of novelty, it is however clear and instructive.

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The article entitled, "Descriptions of the improved Pumps of Prince and Cuthbertson; with Observations;" is so far new, as it mentions the progressive improvements of that most useful philosophical instrument, the air-pump; together with several collateral remarks. Mr. N. mentions all the most noted improvers of that instrument, from its inventor, Otto Guericke, down to the very latest; but we wonder that amongst them he should make no mention of Mr. Haas's construction, which is described in the Philosophical Transactions, the action of which is perhaps not inferior to that of any other engine of the sort.

The fourth article of the fourth number, is "A Method of measuring the Force of an Electrical Battery, during the Time of its being charged. By Lieutenant Colonel Haldane."

This method, which Col. H. proves both theoretically and experimentally, is as follows:

"Let the battery be insulated; and at a small distance from it place an uninsulated electrical jar; also near to the jar place one of Mr. Cuthbertson's electrometers.

"The electrometer being adjusted according to the degree of force which is intended to be employed as a measure of force to be communicated to the battery, connect the electrometer with the jar; make a metallic communication between the interior side of the jar and the exterior side of the battery, and connect the interior side of the battery with the conductor of an electrical machine.

"Then, by the operation of the electrical machine, the battery receives a quantity of the electrical fluid, and becomes charged. The fluid which departs from the exterior side of the battery, is received by the electrical jar, which also becomes charged; but this jar, being connected with the electrometer, explodes as soon as it acquires a force sufficient to put the electrometer in motion.

"Now, the quantity of the electrical fluid which is received by this jar, between each of the explosions, is a measure of the quantity of the fluid in the battery; and the number of explosions or discharges of this jar shows the number of measures which the battery contains, and consequently the force which it is capable of exerting when discharged."

The article entitled "Experimental Researches to ascertain the Nature of the Process by which the Eye adapts itself to produce distinct Vision" (p. 305), is well drawn, as it collects under one point of view the principal facts that have been remarked relative to the subject. A continuation of this paper is to be found in p. 472, and p. 547.

In p. 332, there is a useful table for reducing the new French measures into English inches, gallons, and grains.

In p. 441 and following, there is a paper describing A new Construction of the Air-Pump, by James Sadler, Esq. Chemist

to the Admiralty; which may be considered as a continuation of the paper in p. 119.

The mathematical articles which seem to be more deserving of notice, are the following:

Question I. "It is required to divide the half of a given right line into a given number of parts, so that each part, and the sum of that part and the remainder of the whole line may be in geometrical progression; this being a question of practical utility in the division of the monochord or musical string."

This question is proposed and answered by F. B. who gives the analysis at length, which leads to the conclusion, that the several divisions of the half-line are, $a \times \left(1 - \frac{1}{2^{\frac{1}{n}}}\right)$, $\frac{a}{2^{\frac{1}{n}}} \left(1 - \frac{1}{2^{\frac{1}{n}}}\right)$, $\frac{a}{2^{\frac{2}{n}}} \left(1 - \frac{1}{2^{\frac{1}{n}}}\right)$, $\frac{a}{2^{\frac{3}{n}}} \left(1 - \frac{1}{2^{\frac{1}{n}}}\right)$, &c. where a is the length of the whole line, and n any number whatever = the number of parts = $\frac{a}{a}$.

Question II. Proposed and answered by Captain W. Mudge.

"It is required to determine the centrifugal force of a body moving in the circumference of a circle, by the pure principles of fluxions, instead of deriving it from the doctrine of indivisibles, as is done by Newton in the Principia."

For the answer to this question, we must refer our readers to p. 137 of the Journal itself.

Question VIII. Proposed by S. S. of Reading, and answered by J. F—r.

"Given $a^x + 6^x = c$, to determine the value of x , either by logarithms or a converging series.

"Let a and b be the hyperbolic logarithms of a and b . Then will $a x$ be = h. l. a^x and $1 + a. x + \frac{a^2}{2} x^2 + \frac{a^3}{2.3} x^3 + \frac{a^4}{2.3.4} x^4$ &c. = a^x ; and, in like manner, $1 + b. x + \frac{b^2}{2} x^2 + \frac{b^3}{2.3} x^3 + \frac{b^4}{2.3.4} x^4$ &c. = b^x ; the sum of which $2 + (a + b)x + \frac{a^2 + b^2}{2} x^2 + \frac{a^3 + b^3}{2.3} x^3 + \frac{a^4 + b^4}{2.3.4} x^4$... &c. = c , by the

question. Hence, putting $d = c - 2$, and $a, \beta, \gamma, \delta, \epsilon$, &c. = the above co-efficients of the several powers of x in the latter series, we get $x = \frac{1}{a} d - \frac{\beta}{a^2} d^2 + \frac{\gamma}{a^3} d^3 - \frac{\delta}{a^4} d^4 + \frac{\epsilon}{a^5} d^5 - \frac{\zeta}{a^6} d^6 + \frac{\eta}{a^7} d^7 - \frac{\theta}{a^8} d^8 + \frac{\iota}{a^9} d^9 - \frac{\kappa}{a^{10}} d^{10} + \frac{\lambda}{a^{11}} d^{11} - \frac{\mu}{a^{12}} d^{12} + \frac{\nu}{a^{13}} d^{13} - \frac{\xi}{a^{14}} d^{14} + \frac{\omicron}{a^{15}} d^{15} - \frac{\pi}{a^{16}} d^{16} + \frac{\rho}{a^{17}} d^{17} - \frac{\sigma}{a^{18}} d^{18} + \frac{\tau}{a^{19}} d^{19} - \frac{\upsilon}{a^{20}} d^{20} + \frac{\phi}{a^{21}} d^{21} - \frac{\chi}{a^{22}} d^{22} + \frac{\psi}{a^{23}} d^{23} - \frac{\omega}{a^{24}} d^{24} + \frac{\eta}{a^{25}} d^{25} - \frac{\theta}{a^{26}} d^{26} + \frac{\iota}{a^{27}} d^{27} - \frac{\kappa}{a^{28}} d^{28} + \frac{\lambda}{a^{29}} d^{29} - \frac{\mu}{a^{30}} d^{30} + \frac{\nu}{a^{31}} d^{31} - \frac{\xi}{a^{32}} d^{32} + \frac{\omicron}{a^{33}} d^{33} - \frac{\pi}{a^{34}} d^{34} + \frac{\rho}{a^{35}} d^{35} - \frac{\sigma}{a^{36}} d^{36} + \frac{\tau}{a^{37}} d^{37} - \frac{\upsilon}{a^{38}} d^{38} + \frac{\phi}{a^{39}} d^{39} - \frac{\chi}{a^{40}} d^{40} + \frac{\psi}{a^{41}} d^{41} - \frac{\omega}{a^{42}} d^{42} + \frac{\eta}{a^{43}} d^{43} - \frac{\theta}{a^{44}} d^{44} + \frac{\iota}{a^{45}} d^{45} - \frac{\kappa}{a^{46}} d^{46} + \frac{\lambda}{a^{47}} d^{47} - \frac{\mu}{a^{48}} d^{48} + \frac{\nu}{a^{49}} d^{49} - \frac{\xi}{a^{50}} d^{50} + \frac{\omicron}{a^{51}} d^{51} - \frac{\pi}{a^{52}} d^{52} + \frac{\rho}{a^{53}} d^{53} - \frac{\sigma}{a^{54}} d^{54} + \frac{\tau}{a^{55}} d^{55} - \frac{\upsilon}{a^{56}} d^{56} + \frac{\phi}{a^{57}} d^{57} - \frac{\chi}{a^{58}} d^{58} + \frac{\psi}{a^{59}} d^{59} - \frac{\omega}{a^{60}} d^{60} + \frac{\eta}{a^{61}} d^{61} - \frac{\theta}{a^{62}} d^{62} + \frac{\iota}{a^{63}} d^{63} - \frac{\kappa}{a^{64}} d^{64} + \frac{\lambda}{a^{65}} d^{65} - \frac{\mu}{a^{66}} d^{66} + \frac{\nu}{a^{67}} d^{67} - \frac{\xi}{a^{68}} d^{68} + \frac{\omicron}{a^{69}} d^{69} - \frac{\pi}{a^{70}} d^{70} + \frac{\rho}{a^{71}} d^{71} - \frac{\sigma}{a^{72}} d^{72} + \frac{\tau}{a^{73}} d^{73} - \frac{\upsilon}{a^{74}} d^{74} + \frac{\phi}{a^{75}} d^{75} - \frac{\chi}{a^{76}} d^{76} + \frac{\psi}{a^{77}} d^{77} - \frac{\omega}{a^{78}} d^{78} + \frac{\eta}{a^{79}} d^{79} - \frac{\theta}{a^{80}} d^{80} + \frac{\iota}{a^{81}} d^{81} - \frac{\kappa}{a^{82}} d^{82} + \frac{\lambda}{a^{83}} d^{83} - \frac{\mu}{a^{84}} d^{84} + \frac{\nu}{a^{85}} d^{85} - \frac{\xi}{a^{86}} d^{86} + \frac{\omicron}{a^{87}} d^{87} - \frac{\pi}{a^{88}} d^{88} + \frac{\rho}{a^{89}} d^{89} - \frac{\sigma}{a^{90}} d^{90} + \frac{\tau}{a^{91}} d^{91} - \frac{\upsilon}{a^{92}} d^{92} + \frac{\phi}{a^{93}} d^{93} - \frac{\chi}{a^{94}} d^{94} + \frac{\psi}{a^{95}} d^{95} - \frac{\omega}{a^{96}} d^{96} + \frac{\eta}{a^{97}} d^{97} - \frac{\theta}{a^{98}} d^{98} + \frac{\iota}{a^{99}} d^{99} - 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\frac{\mu}{a^{516}} d^{516} + \frac{\nu}{a^{517}} d^{517} - \frac{\xi}{a^{518}} d^{518} + \frac{\omicron}{a^{519}} d^{519} - \frac{\pi}{a^{520}} d^{520} + \frac{\rho}{a^{521}} d^{521} - \frac{\sigma}{a^{522}} d^{522} + \frac{\tau}{a^{523}} d^{523} - \frac{\upsilon}{a^{524}} d^{524} + \frac{\phi}{a^{525}} d^{525} - \frac{\chi}{a^{526}} d^{526} + \frac{\psi}{a^{527}} d^{527} - \frac{\omega}{a^{528}} d^{528} + \frac{\eta}{a^{529}} d^{529} - \frac{\theta}{a^{530}} d^{530} + \frac{\iota}{a^{531}} d^{531} - \frac{\kappa}{a^{532}} d^{532} + \frac{\lambda}{a^{533}} d^{533} - \frac{\mu}{a^{534}} d^{534} + \frac{\nu}{a^{535}} d^{535} - \frac{\xi}{a^{536}} d^{536} + \frac{\omicron}{a^{537}} d^{537} - \frac{\pi}{a^{538}} d^{538} + \frac{\rho}{a^{539}} d^{539} - \frac{\sigma}{a^{540}} d^{540} + \frac{\tau}{a^{541}} d^{541} - \frac{\upsilon}{a^{542}} d^{542} + \frac{\phi}{a^{543}} d^{543} - \frac{\chi}{a^{544}} d^{544} + \frac{\psi}{a^{545}} d^{545} - \frac{\omega}{a^{546}} d^{546} + \frac{\eta}{a^{547}} d^{547} - \frac{\theta}{a^{548}} d^{548} + \frac{\iota}{a^{549}} d^{549} - \frac{\kappa}{a^{550}} d^{550} + \frac{\lambda}{a^{551}} d^{551} - \frac{\mu}{a^{552}} d^{552} + \frac{\nu}{a^{553}} d^{553} - \frac{\xi}{a^{554}} d^{554} + \frac{\omicron}{a^{555}} d^{555} - \frac{\pi}{a^{556}} d^{556} + \frac{\rho}{a^{557}} d^{557} - \frac{\sigma}{a^{558}} d^{558} + \frac{\tau}{a^{559}} d^{559} - \frac{\upsilon}{a^{560}} d^{560} + \frac{\phi}{a^{561}} d^{561} - \frac{\chi}{a^{562}} d^{562} + \frac{\psi}{a^{563}} d^{563} - \frac{\omega}{a^{564}} d^{564} + \frac{\eta}{a^{565}} d^{565} - \frac{\theta}{a^{566}} d^{566} + \frac{\iota}{a^{567}} d^{567} - \frac{\kappa}{a^{568}} d^{568} + \frac{\lambda}{a^{569}} d^{569} - \frac{\mu}{a^{570}} d^{570} + \frac{\nu}{a^{571}} d^{571} - \frac{\xi}{a^{572}} d^{572} + \frac{\omicron}{a^{573}} d^{573} - \frac{\pi}{a^{574}} d^{574} + \frac{\rho}{a^{575}} d^{575} - \frac{\sigma}{a^{576}} d^{576} + \frac{\tau}{a^{577}} d^{577} - \frac{\upsilon}{a^{578}} d^{578} + \frac{\phi}{a^{579}} d^{579} - 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$d^4 \dots$ &c. As, however, this series does not, when d is great in respect of a , begin to converge till after a considerable number of terms, it seems better to use the common tentative process, repeatedly assuming two values of x , and applying the following proportion:—Difference of results : difference of assumed value :: least error : correction for the nearest value.—This method, though an indirect one, has certainly great practical advantages in a variety of cases wherein the expressions are so entangled with surds or unknown exponents as not to be otherwise reducible without a great deal of trouble.

“ Another method of obtaining the value of x is by means of a table of artificial sines, as follows:—Let r be the logarithmic radius, a , b , and c the common logarithms of a , b , and c , and $d = r - \frac{1}{2} c$. Find an artificial sine, and its correspondent cosine, f and s , in the

tables, so that $\frac{f-d}{\frac{1}{2}a}$ may be $= \frac{s-d}{\frac{1}{2}b}$, each of which quantities will

then be $= x$. The demonstration becomes obvious by considering, that if one of three quantities be equal to the sum of the other two, their square-roots are the sides of a right-angled triangle.” P. 333.

ART. IV. *Medical Histories and Reflections. Volume III.*

By John Ferriar, M.D. Physician to the Manchester Infirmary, Dispensary, Lunatic Hospital, and Asylum. 8vo. 332 pp. 5s. Cadell and Davies, London. 1798.

THE first paper in this volume contains observations on the rabies canina. The author did not see the patient, whose case gave rise to the observations, until after his death, but was present at the dissection, of which he has given a particular account. The deceased was a man between 40 and 50 years of age, he had been bitten in his thumb by a strange dog that came into his master's yard, about six weeks before he became attacked with the disease. The wound is said to have bled plentifully, but healed without difficulty. The man does not seem to have understood that the dog was mad, or to have apprehended any farther consequence from the bite.

On the 6th of October he showed, the author was informed, a disinclination to swallow liquids, which he at first attributed to a soreness of his throat. The disorder went on increasing, with the usual symptoms, until the 6th day, when he died convulsed. The delirium was so violent at times, during the illness, that it was with difficulty the assistants could confine him to his bed. The scar on his thumb, we are told, was visible, but did not inflame, or give him any pain previous to the attack, or during its continuance.

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On opening the head, a quantity of fluid was found between the pia mater, and the tunica aracnoides, but not more than the usual quantity in the ventricles. The pineal gland contained fabulous matter, and one of its peduncles was beginning to ossify. The lungs were furcharged with blood, and in some places adhering to the pleneæ. The liver was changed in colour, and streaked with white.

"The external surface of the stomach was much inflamed, especially on the greater curvature. The œsophagus was completely sound. On opening the stomach, the villous coat was found to be generally inflamed in irregular points, with appearance of abrasion. The inflammation did not extend beyond the villous coat, for on cutting into the muscular coat, it appeared quite sound. The affection did not reach to the pylorus."

Comparing these appearances with what the author had formerly observed*, and with the accounts recorded by other writers, he inclines to think that inflammation of the stomach or œsophagus, with congestion of blood in the lungs, p. 31 and 32, are the most usual effects of the poison, and the causes of the death of persons affected with rabies; consequently, that our attention in the cure, should be employed in attempting to remove inflammation. The author however delivers this opinion, which, he observes, is different from that he formerly held, with great diffidence, acknowledging that the facts on which it is founded, are not sufficiently numerous to draw from them any certain deductions. "So greatly would this hypothesis," he says, p. 39, "alter my views of the indications of cure, from opinions which I have formerly expressed, that it would induce me to prohibit entirely the use of the cold bath, and of bark, during the existence of the symptoms." The remedies proposed in their place, are large and repeated bleedings, and blisters, to which mercurial frictions, calomel and opium might be joined, at the discretion of the prescriber.

As persons of all ages and temperaments are liable to be bitten by rabid animals, little information will be obtained from accounts of dissections, unless the state of health of the patients, prior to the accident, their constitutions, habits and manner of living, be depicted. The person whose case is here given, is said to have been intemperate, that is, probably, to have been addicted to hard drinking. The diseased appearances of the brain, therefore, may be attributed to that cause. Hence on fever being excited by the poison, the delirium was more marked and constant in this patient than is usual. To this

* Medical Histories, vol. i. cause

cause also the congestion of blood in the lungs, their adhesion to the pleura, as well as the diseased appearances of the liver may be attributed; at the least, as they are the usual and known effects of intemperance, it seems more proper to attribute them to it, than to the agency of a poison, of the nature of which we are so extremely ignorant. In respect to the inflamed streaks or spots on the villous coats of the stomach, which were observed in this body, and which have been before noticed by other writers, should they not be considered rather as the effect than the cause of the fever, convulsion, and death of the patients? If they existed prior to the appearance of hydrophobia, or the earliest symptom of the disease, ought they not, in the four, five, six, or more days, which usually intervene before the death of the patients, to have extended themselves farther, and to have committed greater ravages on that tender organ, than they are usually found to have done?

The author is of opinion, that hydrophobia is not a constant or pathognomonic sign of rabies canina, some persons having died of rabies, who never showed any horror at the sight of liquids, or experienced difficulty of swallowing, whilst, on the other hand, it is known that great difficulty in swallowing, with aversion to liquids, are no uncommon symptoms in many nervous and other complaints. But we doubt much whether the examples adduced will bear the author out in his opinion. In general, the presence of rabies canina is first noticed, and its existence determined by the appearance of hydrophobia; and the aversion to liquids or difficulty in swallowing observed in hysteria tetanus, &c. may be distinguished, as well by their existing in a less degree, as by other attending symptoms, from the extreme dread and horror at the sight or sound of water, expressed by persons affected with rabies canina.

In the appendix to the volume, the author has given a few observations on the subject, communicated by Mr. Simmons, Surgeon to the Infirmary. In the debate in the House of Commons on the dog-tax, in the year 1796, Mr. Dent had said, that forty cases of hydrophobia had occurred at the Manchester Infirmary, in the space of a fortnight.

"A considerable number, probably more than forty persons," Mr. Simmons says, "applied at the Infirmary, who had been bitten by mad dogs. Kali purum was applied to their wounds, and by way of seeming to do something, the ormskirk medicine was administered internally, to such of them as required it. They all escaped the disease. For twenty years past," Mr. Simmons adds, p. 221, "I have myself had experience of the success attendant on applying this caustic, in wounds inflicted by the bite of a mad animal; or of animals supposed to be mad, and in no one instance had hydrophobia followed its use."

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It has, I am informed, been used at our Infirmary ever since its foundation, now near fifty years, with uniform success."

As kali purum has been applied by other practitioners, without procuring for their patients a similar exemption from the disease, it is much to be desired that Mr. Simmons would communicate his mode of using it, and inform the public how soon it must be applied, after the bite, in order to insure the like success. The exordium to the next article, an account of the establishment of Fever Wards in Manchester, will show the importance it is of to the public. It will be read, and we hope the excellent rules recommended in it adopted, by every town not already in possession of a similar institution.

"In the two preceding volumes," the author says, "I thought it incumbent on me to lay before the public a view of the misery and havoc produced by the prevalence of infectious fevers among the poor in manufacturing towns. A more agreeable task is now before me; it is to explain the measures which have been adopted, in consequence of my recommendation, for remedying those evils, and the success attending the new institution, which has almost exceeded my warmest expectations."

The institution consists in the erection of fever-wards in the neighbourhood of the town, to which the poor afflicted with fever are removed. The habitations of the poor are from time to time inspected, and lime-washed at the expence of the association. Encouragement and rewards for cleanliness are held out, &c.

The advantages attending the adoption of these regulations are shown by a table, giving the number of persons relieved in fever before and since that period; viz.

"From 1793 to 1794, 400 patients in fever were relieved.

"From 1794 to 1795, 389 persons.

"From 1795 to 1796, 267 persons.

"From 1796 to 1797," that is, since the adoption of the new plan, only, "25 patients with fever were relieved. The bills of mortality in the same year, shew that there has been a decrease in the burials amounting nearly to 400 persons."

The next article contains an account of an affection of the lymphatic vessels, hitherto misunderstood.

The diseases of the lymphatic have been thought to be totally distinct, or of a different nature from those of the arterial system, but the lymphatics are found also to be liable to some similar affections; and, among these, to inflammation of their inner coats. To this the author thinks a certain species of rheumatism may be owing, as also a disease of the lower extremities to which lying-in women are subjected. In this idea

idea we coincide with him; as also in recommending the application of leeches, and of blisters to the limb affected.

A correct account of the croup follows. The author considers it as a highly inflammatory disease, and only to be cured by large and repeated bleedings, emetics, and blisters.

In the next article, containing an account of the whooping-cough, the author gives an account of a child, in which the measles, which supervened, seemed to be extinguished by the whooping-cough. Occasional emetics, with change of air, as recommended by Dr. Armstrong, are the principal remedies proposed in this complaint.

The author has made frequent trials with the nitric acid in syphilis, but without obtaining the advantages from it he was taught to expect.

"Yet," he says, "it may be useful in certain stages of the disease, although neither the extent or permanency of its effects are yet ascertained. He has found it a useful remedy in chronic rheumatism, and thinks it valuable as a palatable tonic."

In what respect, however, it is superior in these qualities to the elixir of vitriol, which Dover used so successfully in chronic rheumatism, we are not told.

The two concluding articles are; the first, on the Treatment of the Dying; the second, Advice to the Poor. The motto to the first, "Disturb him not, let him part peaceably," is very apposite; and the directions to the attendants, not to disturb the sufferer by over officious sedulity, by removing the pillows from under the head, and other practices, which ignorance or superstition have introduced, are the fruit of just thought and reflection on the change about to take place; but they seem to be hardly properly introduced in this book, certainly not calculated for a parlour window. In a periodical publication, or work more immediately addressed to the people, this little essay would have filled a few pages with propriety and advantage. The same objection lies, with infinitely more force, to the admission of the second paper; Advice to the Poor. To what purpose could the author tell the purchasers of his volumes, calculated solely for the use of practitioners in medicine, to recommend to their patients, "to avoid living in damp cellars, or, if they cannot help taking such places, to take care to have the windows put in good repair; to keep their persons and houses as clean as their employment will permit," and other equally trite and obvious directions? Such directions can only be wanted by the extremely poor and ignorant, and should have been printed and disseminated in such a manner as to have been likely to have reached the habitations
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of the persons for whom they were written, and to whom they are directed. The public are, however, still indebted to the author for this volume. The observations on the disease of the lymphatics are valuable; and the manly and decisive tone in which he finally delivers his own opinion on the subject of pneumatic medicine, with which the public have been so long and sordidly amused, does him credit; as well as his decision on the value, or rather the inutility, of the nitric and other acids in venereal affections.

ART. V. *Transactions of the Linnean Society. Volume IV.*
4to. 304 pp. White, Fleet-Street. 1798.

THE Linnean Society, with laudable zeal, continues to exert itself in the cause of natural history. The contents of the present volume are as follows: viz.

1. *Aves Suffexienses, or a Catalogue of Suffex Birds, with Remarks.* By William Markwick, Esq. F. L. S.

From this catalogue it appears, that the beautiful bird called the Roller (*Coracias garrula*. Lin.) has been killed in this county; as likewise the Hoopoe (*Upupa Epops*. Lin.); the rose-coloured Ouzel (*Turdus roseus*. Lin.); the Chatterer (*Ampelis Garrulus*); the Hawfinch (*Loxia Coccothraustes*.); the Bustard (*Otis tarda*.); and several other rare birds. This paper is accompanied by a plate of the *Tringa maritima*, or Sea Sand-piper of Latham, from a specimen shot near Bexhill, out of a flock of twelve, which were seen in that neighbourhood.

2. *Anecdotes of the late Dr. P. Browne, Author of the Natural History of Jamaica.* By A. B. Lambert, Esq. V. P. L. S.

The collection of Dr. Browne was purchased for Linnæus by Dr. Solander, and sent to Sweden. Dr. Browne began a *Flora Indiæ Occidentalis*, and also meditated the publication of a *Flora Hibernica*. He died about the year 1790.

3. *Description of Three rare Species of British Birds.* By G. Montague, Esq. F. L. S.

These birds are the *Sylvia sylvicola*, or Wood-Wren; the *Tringa nigricans*, or Phayrelarn Sand-piper; and the *Alauda*
L petrosa,

petrosa, or Rock-Lark. Of the second of these birds an engraving is given, and the species is supposed to be a non-descript.

4. *An Account of some Species of Fossil Anomie, found in Derbyshire.* By Mr. W. Martyn, F. L. S.

This paper is accompanied by two plates.

5. *An Essay on the eye-like Spot in the Wings of the Locusta of Fabricius, as indicating the male Sex.* By Professor Augustus Henry Lichtenstein, F. M. L. S.

This paper is written in Latin, and is a curious and elaborate disquisition relative to the above-mentioned particular in those animals. It contains many learned and excellent remarks, and evinces a deep and thorough acquaintance with the subject. It is accompanied by a coloured plate of the male and female Locusta, in order to explain the particular part in question.

6. *A new Arrangement of the Genus Polytrichum, with some Emendations.* By Mr. Archibald Menzies, F. L. S.

This paper contains much curious information relative to the mosses of this genus, which by Mr. Menzies's arrangement and descriptions is rendered much clearer than before. To this paper is added an elucidatory plate.

7. *Observations on the Spinning Limax.* By John Latham, M. D. F. R. S. and L. S.

The small species of Limax which was before commemorated in the first volume of the Linnean Transactions, has been since observed by Col. Montague in the county of Cornwall, where it appears to be not uncommon. Col. Montague seems to think it a variety of the Limax agrestis of Linnaeus. When placed on the projecting frame of a window, or other similar situation, it soon suspends itself by the tail part, and by its own mucus gradually drawn into a thread by the motion of its body, descends slowly to the ground: it appears that this is effected entirely by the management of its mucus, and that the thread does not issue from the internal part of the animal. Dr. Latham adds a quotation from Lister, by which it appears that he had often observed the common grey slug, or large Limax, hanging from the branches of trees by thick irregular ropes of mucus of considerable length; and it is probable that the faculty may exist through the whole genus. The small species first mentioned is shown by a coloured figure, in the act of descending by means of its mucus thread.

8. *An Essay on the Tracheæ, or Windpipes, of various Kinds of Birds.* By John Latham, M. D. F. R. S. and L. S.

This is a most excellent paper, in which the celebrated ornithologist gives the several varieties in the figure and proportion of this part in many different species of birds: the paper is accompanied by eight elucidatory plates, and the subjects are the Tracheæ of the Tetrao Urogallus, or Wood-Grouse; Penelope Marail, or Marail Turkey; Phasianus Parraka, or Par-raka Pheasant; Penelope cristata, or Guan; Crax Pauxi, or Cusheo Curassow; Anas semipalmata, or Semipalmated Goose; Crax Alestor, or Crested Curassow; Ardea Virgo, or Demoiselle Heron; Anas Cygnus, or Wild Swan; Ardea Grus, or Crane; Anas Crecca, or Teal; Anas Querquedula, or Garganey; Anas clypeata, or Shoveler; Anas acuta, or Pin-tail Duck; Anas strepera, or Gadwal; Anas Penelope, or Wigeon; Anas boschas, or Mallard; Anas moschata, or Muscovy Duck; Anas marila, or Scaup Duck; Anas ferina, or Pochard; Anas fuligula, or Tufted Duck; Anas tadorna, or Shieldrake; Anas clangula, or Golden-Eye Duck; Anas fusca, or Velvet-Duck; Mergus Merganser, or Greater Goosander; Mergus serrator, or Red-breasted Goosander; and, lastly, the Mergus Albellus, or Smew.

We shall extract a part of Mr. Latham's paper, for the satisfaction of our readers.

"I shall begin this essay by observing, that in most birds the natural shape of the *trachea, aspera arteria*, or *windpipe*, by all which names this part is known, is that of a regularly uniform cylinder of equal diameter, or nearly so, throughout, from its rise at the root of the tongue, to its entrance into the hollow of the *thorax, sternum*, or *breast-bone*, where it divides into two branches, called *bronchiæ*, which ramify into air-vessels which compose the two lobes of the lungs. This, I say, is the general mode of constitution: but Ornithologists pretty far back have noticed nature's deviation from this usual structure, both in respect to the various curvatures of the windpipe itself, as well as the difference of some from others in respect to conformation; but their sentiments were penned in too vague a manner to determine much thereon, not answering the purpose further than to stimulate our future researches. As far as the deviation from a cylindrical shape is concerned, it is observable that the peculiar difference in structure is seen only in the *male* sex, the *female* not having the least enlargement, or increased cavity, as will hereafter be mentioned: but to what purpose nature has intended this, is, I believe, at present unknown to us. Some authors have given as their opinion, that the enlargement of the *trachea* in males, whenever it happens, serves to increase the tone of voice; and that this sex is enabled, by means of it, to cry out more forcibly than those birds which have no such construction of parts—an instance of which is pointed out in the *Golden-Eye Duck*, the

Latin name of which (*Clangula*) has been given to it from this supposed circumstance. Others again have supposed that the peculiarity of structure might be of use in diving; yet no one has authenticated to us, that the male is able to stay longer under water than the female. Concerning the want of presence of an enlarged cavity, or labyrinth, as authors have called it, nothing can better suit our purpose than the examples of the *Scoter* and *Velvet Duck*, the latter of which has not only an enlargement of cavity at the bottom part, but likewise a large hollow in the middle, added to a third enlargement of hollow bone just below the *larynx*; but in the first-named not the least deviation from an uniformly cylindrical shape is seen throughout the whole of its length, in either sex:—yet, wonderful to say, the *Scoter* has by far the greater facility of the two, in respect to diving and staying under the water, and on account of this property of diving becomes one of the most difficult birds to kill in its own element, as twenty shots have been made at one of these, by a good marksman, before one has taken effect. We cannot do amiss also to remind the reader, that none of the genus of *Colymbus*, *Podiceps*, or *Uria*, which have acquired the name of *Drivers* from being so often under water, do enjoy any material construction of the *trachea* different from the *Cock* and *Hen*, which are well known to avoid the water from instinct. Neither can I learn that any thing occurs to outward appearance, that should enable the *Corvus*, *Shag*, and many others, to dive with such facility as they are known to do. The *Wild Swan*, in which we observe a great elongation added to a peculiar curvature of the windpipe, is able to hold its head for a length of time under water in search of food; but we have no authority for saying whether it can do so a longer time than the *Tame Swan*, in which no such peculiarity is seen. Besides, the common *Crane*, and others of the *Ardea* genus, which have not in their power even to swim, are endowed with a much greater elongation and curvature of the windpipe than the *Wild Swan*. In respect to what assistance such a construction of parts as above said may afford to the tone of voice, I will not venture here to affirm; yet it cannot be denied that some birds are able to utter very loud sounds without such aid—witness the *Cock*, *Peacock*, and others. We see Nature's operations and admire them in course, yet cannot always comprehend the utility of her works; and this seems one of her designs concerning which we are not at all clear. It, too, must be confessed, that the whole we have been able to obtain by our scrutiny into this subject is, the security of a mark of distinction, in respect to several species concerning which we have been more or less in a state of uncertainty." P. 92.

9. *Observations on bituminous Substances, with a Description of the Varieties of the elastic Bitumen.* by Charles Hatchett, Esq. F. R. S. Lond. and Edinb. F. L. S. &c.

This paper is both important and curious. It traces with great philosophical exactness the various gradations by which Nature forms her principal liquid and solid bitumens; viz. naphtha, petroleum, mineral tar, mineral pitch, asphaltum, jet, pit-

pit-coal, bituminous wood, turf, peat, and, lastly, those combinations of the oxydes of certain metals with bitumen, called bituminous fires.

The following description of bituminous wood, and particularly of Bovey Coal, may be acceptable to our readers.

" Bituminous or fossil wood is found in many places; but in respect to that which is found at Bovey, near Exeter, and which is therefore called Bovey coal, there are some peculiarities which deserve to be mentioned. The Bovey coal is a dark brown, light, brittle substance, which in texture and other external properties much resembles wood which has been half charred. It is not found as scattered logs or trunks, but forms regular strata.

" The pits are on a heath which is flat and sandy; the stratum of sand is however but thin, after which a pale brownish grey clay is found mixed with quartz pebbles. This prevails to about six feet, at which depth the first stratum of the coal commences. The quality of this is however much inferior to that of the subsequent strata, which in all amount to seventeen, producing a depth of nearly seventy-four feet from the surface. Between each stratum of coal is a stratum of clay. The direction of the strata is from east to west, and the inclination or dip is from north to south. The inferior strata are thought to afford the best coal, and the coal is more solid and of a better quality towards the south. The thickest stratum of coal is from six to eight feet.

" The Bovey coal burns readily with a flame like half-charred wood: it does not crackle, and, if but moderately burned, forms charcoal; or if completely burned, it leaves a small quantity of white ashes exactly similar to those of wood. The smell of it when burning also resembles that of wood, with a faint disagreeable odour. It is certainly very remarkable that this substance should form regular strata, although it possesses the texture and most of the properties of wood; and that these strata do not exhibit any of those irregularities on their surfaces, which might be expected, on the supposition that they were formed by the roots, trunks, and branches of trees long buried in the earth. It is also difficult to imagine wood to have been transported and deposited in this place at seventeen different periods, and yet it must be allowed that these strata have been formed by successive operations. I must confess, that after having twice visited and examined the spot expressly for the purpose, I still find myself utterly unable to offer any opinion upon the subject.

The characters of bitumen are but little apparent in the Bovey coal, and the superior strata even appear to have lost a portion of their combustible principle, while the inferior strata possess it. The lower parts also of these strata are more compact and more combustible, than those parts which are immediately upon them.

" Another remarkable sort of fossil wood, which much resembles the Bovey coal, and in like manner is arranged among the bituminous woods, is that found in Iceland, which is called by the inhabitants *Surturbrand*. This is rather harder than the Bovey coal, but in every other respect is the same. It also forms strata many feet in thickness; but

but it is very extraordinary that these strata appear to be formed of trunks of trees, which, in their transverse section, exhibit the concentric circles of their annual growth, with this difference, that the trunks have been so compressed as to be nearly flat, so that the circles appear like parallel lines connected at their extremities by a short curve.

" I did not observe such an appearance at Bovey; but this would depend upon the position of the trunks of the trees, in respect to the section of the strata.

" Chaptal, Troil, Bergman, and many others, have been of opinion that the *furturbrand* is wood which has been charred by the heat of the lava. But I cannot discern why it should be supposed that it has been acted upon by fire, any more than that the Bovey coal has been subjected to the effects of the same agent. The qualities of the two substances are the same; and as (from Archbishop Troil's and Professor Bergman's account) the *furturbrand* is stratified, I think we may venture to pronounce that the circumstances under which they are found, are also similar. The whole, therefore, of the opinion in favour of fire, appears to rest on the volcanic nature of Iceland; but it surely would be going too far were we to ascribe to fire all the phenomena which are observed in volcanic countries.

" Bovey coal, like the *furturbrand*, resembles half-charred wood; and I will allow, and indeed am disposed to believe, that it is in a state nearly similar; but from this it does not follow that fire has been the cause.

" Carbon is known to be one of the grand principles of vegetables, and also as that which is the most fixed, excepting the small portion of the earths contained in them. As a fixed principle, carbon appears to form, in great measure, the vegetable fibre; and after a certain degree of combustion, (by which the other principles have been dissipated,) it remains, and the particles of it keep the same arrangement which they possessed when the vegetable was complete. If, however, the combustion has been carried on with the free access of air, the carbon enters into combination with oxygen and caloric, and forms carbonic acid.

" We have many examples in which carbon is formed or rather liberated from those substances with which it was combined in vegetables; and these are now explained as effects similar to those of combustion, although fire has not been the cause. In both cases the carbon has been freed from the more volatile principles; and under circumstances not favourable to the union of carbon with oxygen, the former must necessarily remain more or less undiminished.

" During the combustion of vegetable matter, the more volatile principles contained in the vegetable fibre (which with carbon also forms the resinous and other similar substances) appear to be first separated; and in proportion to this separation, the other more fixed substance, which we call carbon, is developed.

" Thus, by the progress of combustion, wood becomes brown, and afterwards black; so that the state of the wood shews the degree of combustion to which it has been subjected, or, in other words, how far the separation of the other principles from carbon has been effected.

" Com-

"Combustion is therefore a species of analysis by which the principles of vegetables are separated, according to their affinities, and according to their degree of volatility. By this operation hydrogen and azote (if it be present in the vegetable) are first disengaged and form new combinations, while the carbon is the last which is acted upon; so that unless a sufficient quantity of oxygen be present, it remains fixed and unchanged.

"But the same separation of the vegetable principles happens whenever vegetables in the full possession of their juices are exposed to circumstances which favour the putrid fermentation.—As in combustion, so by the progress of putrefaction does the vegetable lose its colour, become brown, and afterwards black; at the same time a gas is discharged, which is composed of hydrogen, azote, and carbonic acid.

"When combustion is long continued with the free access of air, the whole of the carbon is dissipated in the state of carbonic acid; but in the process of putrefaction a considerable portion of carbon commonly remains even long after the putrid fermentation has ceased. Although, therefore, it is as readily developed by putrefaction as by combustion, it is not, however, when liberated from the other principles, so speedily dissipated by the former as by the latter process.

"According to the degree of combustion within certain limits the carbon is more or less apparent, and the like prevails according to the degree of putrefaction; so that whenever the causes which have promoted this species of fermentation have ceased, the vegetable substance will remain with more or less of its first principles, and with more or less visible carbonic matter, according to the degree of putrefaction which has prevailed, and the vegetable substance will consequently have the appearance and properties of wood which has been charred more or less.

"To this cause, therefore, I am inclined to attribute the formation and appearance of the Bovey coal and turfbrand; and I believe that the portion of oily and bituminous matter, which I have obtained from them by distillation, is nothing more than the remainder of the vegetable oils and juices which have been partly modified by mineral agents." P. 138.

10. *An Account of the Jumping Mouse of Canada, or Dipus Canadensis.* By Maj. Gen. Davies, F. R. S. and F. L. S.

This is a description of a new species of *Dipus*, which is one of the newly instituted genera of quadrupeds, and which, in the old *Systema Naturæ* of Linnæus, would have belonged to the genus *Mus*. It contains the animals of the Jerbooid tribe, or such as have the hinder legs very long, and the fore legs very short, and which in their attitudes resemble birds, by standing on their hind-legs only. The species here mentioned is scarce so large as a common mouse, and was found in Canada. It is represented both in its erect state, and in its sleeping position, by two coloured figures.

11. *Observations on the Blowing of certain Plants.* By the Rev. Thomas Martyn, B. D. F. R. S. V. P. L. S. Regius Professor of Botany in the University of Cambridge.

The Professor here gives the times of expansion of the Corolla in the *Oenothera biennis*, *Hibiscus Trionum*, *Anagallis arvensis*, and some other plants, during the autumn of the year 1796. The observations commence on the 16th of August, and are continued to the first of October.

12. *Remarks on some foreign Species of Orobanche.* By James Edward Smith, M. D. F. R. S. P. L. S.

From this paper it appears that the British species of this remarkable genus have hitherto been very ill understood. Dr. Smith has with great pains elucidated the obscure descriptions of some species in the works of John Bauhin, Lobel, and others. He has also added the characters of two foreign species, which have hitherto been unascertained: these are, the *Orobanche caryophyllacea*, and the *O. gracilis*. These we shall extract from the work.

“ 1. *OROBANCHE caryophyllacea.*

“ *O. caule simplici, corolla inflata fimbriato-crispa; labio inferiore laciniis obtusis æqualibus, staminibus intus basi hirsutis.*

“ *O. major. Pollck Palatin. v. ii. 200.*

“ *O. major. garyophyllum olens. Baubin, Pin. 87.*

“ *Gathered on scrubby hills near Valcimara at the foot of the Apennines, in April 1787. Tour on the Continent, vol. ii. 308. Linnaeus received the same from Siberia.*

“ This has very much the habit of the *Orobanche major* of Engl. Bot. t. 421. and all other British authors, and has been so universally confounded with it by foreigners, that it is utterly impossible to allot to each its proper synonyms, no botanist having as yet properly described the stamina, in which the true character resides; much less do the figures of old authors lend any assistance towards this discrimination. I here quote Caspar Bauhin, merely on account of his mentioning the clove-like smell: in his synonyms he appears to confound these two and possibly several more species. We have no reason to think that Linnaeus intended the one more than the other for his *O. major*, he having preserved no Swedish specimen; but I have retained that name for the English plant, which is also the more common of the two throughout Europe. When some English writers tell us it has “ a faint smell of cloves,” I believe that remark has been made rather from regard to books than to nature; for the *O. caryophyllacea* has indeed not a faint, but a very strong and fragrant smell of cloves when fresh, as I can witness: but I never met with any body who could perceive the least degree of the same smell in any *Orobanche* found in Britain.

“ With

" With respect to more modern synonyms of these two species, Villars in his *Plantes de Dauphiné*, vol. ii. 407, evidently appears to have known them both, but thought them one species; he having only been anxious to distinguish from them the *O. carulea* Engl. Bot. t. 423, about which indeed there can be no dispute. Pollich's most excellent description leaves no doubt of his *O. major* being my *caryophyllacea*; I have therefore quoted him without any hesitation. Haller under his No. 295 seems to have intended neither of these, but rather the *O. minor*, Engl. Bot. t. 422, except that he mentions the clove-like odour. He refers to Micheli, who published a little Italian work in octavo at Florence, in 1723, upon this genus, chiefly to indicate a method of extirpating. This book enumerates many varieties, among which probably our new species are all to be found. The *O. minor* is the only one I have ever met with growing in such situations, or in such abundance as to be deemed a weed: and it attaches itself, as Haller observes, to the roots of *Diadelpheous* plants, particularly clover. Gmelin in his *Flora Sibirica* mentions several varieties of what he took for *O. major*; but it is not possible to determine what they really are.

" B Haller has recorded as a variety of his 295, a Swiss *Orobanche*, of which a drawing had been sent him, " with a very dense conical spike, a very short flower, and style projecting considerably out of it," which, he adds, " is so remarkable as to deserve being reckoned a species, provided more specimens could be discovered." This same plant is to be found in the Linnean herbarium, gathered in eastern Pomerania by a Mr. Brunemann, and very well preserved. If a variety of any thing, it must be *O. caryophyllacea*, with which the stamina precisely agree; nor does it differ from the other specimens in my possession, except in being more luxuriant, with a greater number of flowers in a younger, and therefore conical, spike, and in the corolla and stamina being not half so long as usual, while the style protrudes considerably. The germen is smooth; style slightly pubescent, incurved, with a dark-coloured stigma; bractæ, calyx, and divisions of the corolla exactly as in the species to which I have ventured to refer it.

" I have only to observe farther, that the *Orobanche caryophyllacea* agrees very nearly with *O. major* in habit and size, as well as the appearance of its flowers; but differs from the latter in having the three segments of the lower lip obtuse, and much more fringed and curled. The germen also is entirely smooth, which in *O. major* is hairy in the upper part, and the style is much less downy than in that species. The most striking mark, however, of *O. caryophyllacea* consists in the lower part of the stamens, on the inside, being thickly clothed with hairs, whereas that part in *O. major* is always perfectly smooth. The stigma of *O. caryophyllacea* is brown or purplish; that of *O. major* yellow.

" 2. *OROBANCHE gracilis*.

" *O. caule simplici, corolla inflata; labio inferiore brevissimo laciniis obcordatis inæqualibus fimbriato-crispis; staminibus styloque pilosis exsertis.*

" *Gathered in hilly pastures at St. Orfese near Genoa, in July 1787.*

" I can meet with no synonyms for this species. It has a taller and more

more slender stem than *O. major*, and is upon the whole less pubescent. The bractæ are shorter than the flower. Corolla the size of *O. major*, but the upper lip is of a dark or purplish colour, and less fimbriated or crisped than in that species. The lower lip is remarkably short, in three obcordate fimbriated segments, of which the middle one is larger than the other two, and is connected at its base with the very prominent two-lobed palate of the flower. The stamina are slender, thinly clothed all over, as well as the style, with scattered hairs, and project out of the mouth of the flower. The germen is smooth. I do not recollect its having, when fresh; peculiar smell.

"The *O. gracilis* has most affinity to the *minor* in some of its characters; but differs in its larger inflated corolla, short lower lip, longer stamina and hairy style." P. 196.

13. In this paper are described, in a very accurate manner, the British species of *Orobanche*; and it appears, that our island may boast of no less than five distinct species of this curious genus; whereas, in our Flora hitherto published, we have been contented to consider ourselves as possessed of no more than two; viz. the *O. major*, and *O. ramosa*.

As an example of Mr. Sutton's accurate mode of description, we shall extract that of the *O. ramosa*, p. 185.

"5. *OROBANCHE ramosa*.

"Caulis ramoso. Corollis quinquefidis. Bracteis ternis. Calycibus brevibus, profundè quadrifidis.

"*O. ramosa*, caule ramoso, corollis quinquefidis.—*Syst. Plant. ed. Reichard*, p. 184.—*Pollich Flo. Pal. n.* 601.

"*O. caule ramoso*, flore quinquepartito.—*Haller*, 2 edit. n. 296.

"*O. ramosa*, caule subramoso, corollis quinquefidis.—*Hudson Flo. Ang.* 2 edit. p. 266.

"*O. ramosa*.—*Raii Syn.* 3 edit. p. 288.*—*With. Bot. Arr.* 3 edit. p. 558.

"*O. ramosa*, stem generally branched, corolla with five segments, —*Smith in Engl. Bot. tab.* 184.

"*Radix* congenerum, annua, vix squamosa, *Cannabis sativæ* radicibus cauleque imprimis implicata. *Caulis* 6—10 pollicaris, erectus, subflexuosus, teres, pilosus, sublignosus, luteo-purpurascens, crassitie ferè pennæ anserinæ, basi ramosus, ramis caule brevioribus, squamosus, squamis raris ovato-lanceolatis, citò fusciscentibus; interdum simplex. *Flores* spicati (spica acuta) ex albido cœrulei, venis cœruleis notati, pilosi; persistentes declinati, tubo supernè compresso, infernè ventricosiore, fusci—flos inferior sæpe pedunculatus. *Bractæ* ternæ breves, calyci vix æquales, membranaceæ, citò fusciscentes, duæ laterales interiores, lanceolatæ acuminatæ, minatæ, exterior ovato-lanceolata. *Calyx*, perianthium monophyllum, hyalinum, dimidio corollæ brevior, scilicet ad corollæ longitudinem in ratione 2 ad 5; latius et profundius ad posticam quam ad anticam partem, ibique quam ad latera, incisum; laciniis æqualibus, lanceolatis, acutis. *Corolla* ringens, quinquefida, pilosa, tubo infernè tere, supernè sensim ampliato, compresso-triangulari; dorso carinato

nato incurvo; faux dehiscens; limbus bilabiatus inæqualis: labium superius rotundatum, breviusculum, bifidum, edentatum, reflexum; inferius, trilobum, laciniis æqualibus, rotundatis, porrectis. Palatum ex albido luteum, pilis albidis non glanduliferis barbatum, Nectarium nullum. Stamina, filamenta præcedentis, pilosiuscula, purpurascens. Antheræ luteo-albidæ, intra faucem reclusæ, defloratæ inclusæ. Pistillum, germen quadrato-ovatum nitidum, pilosiusculum; Stylus filiformis, incurvus, pilosiusculus, purpurascens; Stigma retusum, margine dilatatum, albidum, non rimosum. Pericarpium, capsula quadrato-ovata, longitudinaliter dehiscens. Semina minuta numerosa, subturbinata, reticulato, cellulosa.

" Floret Augusto, Septembri &c.

" Dignoscitur a præcedente—Spicis acutis; caule et ramis parum squamosis; calycibus bracteisque dimidio corollæ brevioribus; tubo post florescentiam inferne globoso.

" This species was first found in Norfolk, by Mr. Woodward, in the year 1785, in a hemp field at Brome. He found it again, some time afterwards, in a similar situation, on the opposite side of the river at Mettingham, near Beccles, in Suffolk—the place where it is reported to have been found, in the time of Dillenius, by Dr. James Sherard. It grows also among the hemp at Outwell, in Norfolk. The seeds of both were probably introduced into England together. In the *Batanical Arrangement* it is said to be found " in corn-fields and dry pastures;" and in the *Species Plantarum*, " in siccis." We have known it found in no other than a very rich, light, and moist soil. It may be doubted whether the *O. ramosa* of Osbeck, p. 58 of the original edition, and p. 78 of the English translation, be the same species with ours, or not.

This paper is accompanied by a very good plate of the *Orobanche elatior*.

14. *Account, accompanied by a Figure, of a Minute Ichneumon.* By George Shaw, M. D. F. R. S. V. P. L. S.

The species here mentioned by Dr. S. is most allied to the *I. atomos* of Linnæus, but is probably new; it is named *Ichneumon Punctum*, and is one of the smallest of flying insects.

15. *Description of the Phasma dilatatum.* By Mr. John Parkinson, F. L. S.

The genus *Phasma* is of late institution, and contains such of the Linnean genus *Mantis*, as do not perfectly agree with his generic character, and are by Stoll and others formed into a distinct genus termed *Phasma*. The species here described is a most singular one; it is of a very large size, and in habit approaches in some degree to the *Mantis Gigas* of Lin. but differs greatly in the proportions and shape of the thorax and abdomen: the wings also are very short and small, not large and long, as in that insect. A coloured figure is added, representing

ing the animal in its natural size, and its remarkable ova, one of which is shown in a magnified state.

16. *Description of the Blight of Wheat, Uredo Frumenti.* By A. B. Lambert, Esq. F. R. S. V. P. L. S.

The species of Fungus here described, Mr. Lambert considers as new. In the year 1797, the wheat in some of the Western Counties suffered very considerably from it; the stems being nearly covered with it. It has the appearance of a sooty powder dispersed in linear streaks along the stems of the wheat which it infests.

17. *Ammophila, a new Genus of Insects, in the class Hymenoptera, including the Spheg sabulosa of Linnaeus.* By the Rev. W. Kirby, F. L. S.

This is an interesting memoir. The genus *Ammophila* or Sand-Wasp, is formed from that of *Spheg*; containing species which differ so much from the rest of that genus as to justify this new arrangement. The characters are given with great precision, and the whole is accompanied by an elucidatory plate, showing the distinctive generic characters of *Spheg*, *Vespa*, *Apis*, and *Ammophila*.

18. *Characters of Twenty new Genera of Plants.* By James Edward Smith, M. D. F. R. S. P. L. S.

These new genera are mostly Australasian or New Holland plants. The *Lambertia formosa*, a plant of remarkable elegance, is illustrated by a figure. It is unnecessary to add, that the essential characters of these new genera are given in the most accurate manner; and to each is very properly subjoined the general habit of the species.

19. *Further Observations on the Wheat Insect, in a Letter to the Rev. Sam. Goodenough, L. L. D. F. R. S. Tr. L. S.* By Thomas Martham, Esq. Sec. L. S.

The importance of this paper will readily appear to every observer. Yet with respect to the injury supposed to be done to the wheat by insects in general, we cannot but accede to the opinion of Mr. Markwick, a part of whose letter to Mr. Martham is inserted in the present paper; viz.

“ To your learned friend's question as to the quantity of mischief done by this unknown fly, I fear I cannot give you a satisfactory answer: I certainly think his average of two grains in each ear destroyed by this insect not too great, for I scarcely examined any ears in which there were not more than that injured; but after all, are not our fears with
respect

respect to this insect greater than they ought to be? and does not the wheat suffer as much from insects or some other cause every year, even in those years that are most productive?"

20. *History of the Tipula Tritici and Ichneumon Tipulæ, with some Observations upon other Insects that attend the Wheat, in a Letter to Thomas Marsham, Esq. L. S.* By the Rev. William Kirby, F. L. S.

The history of both the above insects is given in a very accurate and entertaining manner, by Mr. Kirby, whose general way of writing reminds us of the celebrated Durham. Speaking of the destruction of the larvæ of the *Tipula Tritici*, by the *Ichneumon Tipulæ*, Mr. Kirby thus expresses himself.

"That they are destroyed by any other insect than the *Ichneumon*, I have no reason to believe, having never seen them attacked by any other; therefore it seems to me most probable that this little friend to man is the destroyer of by far the greatest part of them. If this be the case, what a benefactor to the human race is this diminutive animal! and how ought we to admire and adore the wisdom and goodness of Divine Providence, in thus setting bounds to the ravages of an insect, which, however insignificant it may seem at first sight, might, if permitted to exceed its due limits, deprive us of the staff of bread, and almost occasion the destruction of our species! The superstition of the Ancients, had they been acquainted with the advantages which appear to be derived to man through the instrumentality of this important though minute link in the chain of creation, would have erected altars to it, as to a beneficent deity: Can we, who enjoy the clear light of revelation, do less than adore and extol that goodness, which thus preserves a due balance in his works, and says to the destroyer, Thus far shalt thou come, and no further? Indeed the numerous species of the genus *Ichneumon* seems to have been created on purpose to keep within due bounds the other tribes of insects. Any person who has observed the depredations committed in our gardens by the caterpillar of the cabbage butterfly, may conjecture to what extent they would be carried, were it not given in charge to the *Ichneumon* of that insect to keep them within their assigned limits. In a word, were it not for this philanthropic genus, we should not be able to stir, nor even breathe, without being annoyed, nay suffocated by myriads and myriads of troublesome animals, which are now taught to know their proper bounds, and answer the ends for which they were created: But why do I thus moralize to you, to whom these reflections are perpetually recurring? I shall therefore return to my history." P. 234.

21. *Account of a new Species of Muscicapa from New South Wales.* By Major General Davies, F. R. S. and F. L. S.

This description is accompanied by a figure of the male and female bird, which is termed by the natives of New South Wales, *Merion Binnion*.

22. *Observations*

22. *Observations on the Genus Pausus, and Description of a new Species.* By Adam Afzelius, M. D. Demonstrator of Botany in the University of Upsala, F. R. S. and F. M. L. S.

Mr. Afzelius has here given a description so elaborately minute, as almost to incur the imputation of Swammerdamism, which, with all that can be said in its justification, is certainly not calculated to allure many votaries to the study of natural history, and was by no one more sedulously avoided than by Linnæus himself. It must be observed, however, that the genus Pausus is in itself so rare, and hitherto so little known, that it was allowable in the present instance to be more than usually prolix in its description. The new species, or Pausus sphærocerus, is elucidated by coloured figures of the insect; both in its natural size, and as it appears when magnified. On the same plate are also given figures of the Pausus microcephalus, or that described by Linnæus. Some of the letters of reference in these plates being wrongly marked, may perhaps tend to mislead a common reader.

23. *Observations on the British Species of Bromus, with introductory Remarks on the Composition of a Flora Britannica:* By James Edward Smith, M. D. F. R. S. P. L. S.

An admirable paper; in which the British species of Bromus are well described, and ascertained, and the numerous mistakes of authors pointed out. Twelve species are described.

24. *Some Corrections of the general Description of Polytrichum rubellum, before described in this Volume, and an Account of a new Species.* By Mr. Archibald Menzies, F. L. S.

The new species here described, is the Polytrichum subulatum, a native of New Zealand.

ART. VI. *False Impressions: a Comedy, in Five Acts. Performed at the Theatre-Royal, Covent-Garden.* By Richard Cumberland, Esq. 8vo. 75 pp. 2s. Dilly. 1797.

IN a time more fertile in dramatic excellence, we should not perhaps select this Comedy as a very distinguished effort of the author; at present any production of one whose comic art was studied in better days commands respect. False Impressions bear the mark of that study; for though the texture of

of the fable is slight, and the finishing of the scenes far from elaborate, there is originality and judgment to be discovered in the conduct of it. The Prologue, which we cannot praise for much felicity of thought or of style, led us to expect worse entertainment than we found; for there the author confesses that he has thought it adviseable to conform to the trivial taste of the day.

No, let him take his profit and his ease,
And trifle on, so long as trifles please.

In conformity with this declaration, Jerry Scud, a prominent figure in the piece, talks in the modern jargon of farce, the humour of which consists chiefly in leaving out pronouns, and uttering broken sentences. For example:

"*Scud.* Fetch my slippers, firrah! Take off my boots. My dear Jenny cannot abide boots; very right, very reasonable; soil the carpet, dawb her petticoats, annoy her olfactions—no wonder—delicate darling, my Jenny—sweet pretty creature—perfect posy of a woman—so, so, so! take hold firrah; pull away? That will do, that will do—set my slippers—red moroccas—stockings not soiled—pretty well off there—Now, puppy Jack, where's your mistress."

Of this stuff, however, there is only a moderate dose, even Scud drops it, after a time, in a great degree; and the other characters are touched with delicacy, though with no great seasoning of *vis comica*.

The most active person in the plot is Mr. Earling, an attorney, agent to old Lady Cypress, who has filled her mind with *false impressions* of her nephew Mr. Algernon, in hopes of obtaining a good legacy for himself, or perhaps the hand of the widow herself in marriage. Lady Cypress, in the mean time, thinks of adopting as her heiress Emily Fitzallan, the orphan daughter of an officer; but with an express exception against her taking the nephew for a husband. Emily, however, as it sometimes happens in comedies, has accidentally seen this very Algernon, received an heroic service from him, and of course fallen deeply in love with him. The object of the plot therefore is, to detect the artifices of Earling, and to clear up the character of Algernon to his aunt. This is effected by means sufficiently adequate, and direct; and without any improbabilities, except those belonging to the supposed rencounter, which made Algernon the lover of Emily. The characters are slightly drawn, but form not unpleasing sketches. *Lady Cypress* is a respectable, but rather weak woman, very fit to be duped by a specious knave. *Earling* is a thorough-paced rogue. *Emily* a gentle but determined lass; but, like most of Mr. Cumberland's lasses, either in novels or plays, one who

who falls in love in one instant, and avows it to the object of her passion the next. *Algernon* is a spirited young man, with some faults, but more virtues. Besides these, are introduced *Sir Oliver Monrath*, a gallant and generous old officer; *Scud*, the ridiculous apothecary already mentioned, and his pretty wife *Jenny*; *Simon Single*, an old butler in Lady Cypress's family, a personage of some original humour, well calculated to be represented by the chaste and yet forcible delineation of Mr. Munden; with some other subordinate characters.

After we have said so much of this Comedy, our readers will probably expect a specimen of it, but this it is rather difficult to give. The tenor is pleasing and not devoid of interest, but there are few passages so striking in any way, as to make much impression in a separate form. Perhaps the beginning of the second act, though of little use to the drama, except to open the character of *Simon Single*, may serve our purpose as well as any part we could select.

“ *Castle Hall.—Simon Single, Farmer Gawdry, and his son Isaac.*

Simon. Master Gawdry, Master Gawdry, have I not said the word, and will not the word that I have said serve and suffice to put thee out of doubt, that Isaac thy son, thy son Isaac will not do?

Gawd. I pray you now, Master *Simon Single*, be kind hearted and consider of it. I should be main proud to have him in my Lady's livery; he's a docile lad, and can turn his hand, as I may say, to any thing.

Simon. Let him turn it to the plough; he's a bumpkin: let him drive the team, and dung the land; he's born to it: let him ring the hogs, and tend the slye, and toil in the drudgery of his vocation. Nature never fashioned him to be the lacquey of a lady—You are answer'd, Farmer Gawdry.

Gawd. Aye, Master, I am answer'd, but I am not heard. I hanna told you half the things my boy can do.

Simon. What can he do? unfold!

Gawd. A power—speak for yourself, Isaac; tell the gentleman what you can do.

Isaac. A' looks so grave, a' daunts me.

Gawd. What should daunt thee, boy? Don't hang thy head, but up, and tell him boldly what can't do.

Isaac. I will, father, I will.—I can sing psalms, shoot flying, worm the puppies, cut capers, climb the rookeries, and make gins for the polo-cats.

Simon. Wonderfull! and can't you eat and drink, and sleep and snore abundantly? Can't you wench when you have an opportunity, swear now and then upon occasion, and lie a little, when it serves your purpose?

Isaac. Yes, yes, I know something of all these matters.

Gawd. I told you he was fit to wait upon any lady in the land.

Simon. Upon any lady but the Lady Cypress, he is welcome; upon her he may wait long enough before he gets any other answer than I've given you. *Disum est*—Good morning to you.

Gawd,

Gawd. Good morning to me indeed ! How long, I trow, have you been this great man, to carry yourself in your geers so stately ? I can call to mind the day when you came into this family, as mere a bumpkin as you think my boy to be.

Simon. Keep your temper, neighbour Gawdry, keep your temper ; mount your ficed, amble homewards, visit your *owes* and your *boves*, comfort your good dame, and present my humble service to her.

Gawd. I won't comfort her ; I won't present your humble service to her ; I do'nt find you are so willing to do her any service, and as for humble, it do'nt belong to you—but mark my words—time is at hand—County elections coming on—ask me for a plumper then, do ; ask me, I say, for a plumper,—and mind where I'll direct you to look for it. Come along, Isaac, come along. *Exit.*

Simon. We men in power, when we have a place to give away, make nine enemies to one friend, and 'tis nine to one if that friend don't turn an enemy before he is well warm in his office." P. 16.

We cannot consider this comedy as more than a sketch, though a sketch by a master. It is neither enlivened by much wit, nor made interesting by touches of the pathetic. It preserves a middle tenor, and is agreeable rather than striking. A little more attention and thought bestowed upon it, might have worked up the very same plot into something of a much higher rank of merit.

ART. VII. *The View of Hindoostan.* 2 Vols. 4to. 3l. 10s. White. 1798.

THE entertaining volumes here presented to the public by a veteran in their service, form part of a comprehensive work announced by Mr. Pennant in the Memoirs of his Literary Life, printed in 1793, under the title of Outlines of the Globe. An advertisement prefixed to the first, states them to be the 14th and 15th volumes of that undertaking, which is not to be collectively published till after the death of the author. This preface acknowledges his extensive obligations, in the composition of them, to Major Rennel in the geographical, and to Sir William Jones in the Natural History, and various other lines of research. They are ornamented with many very excellent charts and engravings, illustrative of the manners and customs of the natives of India, its topography, and botanical treasures ; and, on the whole, exhibit a very pleasing specimen of what may be expected from the larger work in contemplation to be published, should the present ef-

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say meet with general approbation. By far the most valuable portion, however, is that in which Mr. Pennant was best calculated, by his intimate knowledge of the subject, to excel; we mean the botanical enquiries, and the natural history of the terrestrial and marine animals, peculiar to Hindostan, and its adjoining ocean. The plate of the *sea-snakes* in the first volume, and that of the *Nepaul pheasant*, coloured from nature, in the second, may be mentioned as proofs of great accuracy of delineation, as well as of minute and unwearied research. The sources from which Mr. P. derives his materials are, besides those enumerated, the Ayeen Akbery, D'Anville, the Nubian Geographer, Sonnerat, Niebuhr, and all the more celebrated voyages and travels published in either the present, or preceding centuries. To the merit of an original work it certainly does not, and cannot aspire; but it is *composed* of the choicest materials, interspersed with many ingenious remarks and original observations, more especially of that kind which may be supposed to flow from the pen of a naturalist. It will also be remembered, that it professes to be only an *outline*, a small portion of a most extensive work, a rapid portrait of the surface of the globe, which excludes all idea of profundity of research, and laboured investigation.

Having made these previous remarks from a sense of justice to an author who, at the advanced age of 71, engages in such an arduous enterprise, we proceed to point out those parts most likely to interest, either by the display of the talent of description, or the novelty, grandeur, and beauty of the objects described. The description of the celebrated pardisaical region of Cashmere is very full, and combines, in a short compass, nearly all that has been said by preceding authors concerning that romantic and secluded region.

“ This Happy Valley, this Paradise of Hindostan, of the *Indians* poets, is of an oval form, about eighty miles long and forty broad, and was once supposed to have been entirely filled with water; which having burst its mound, left this vale enriched to the most distant ages by the fertilizing mud of the rivers which fed its expanse. This delicious spot is surrounded by mountains of vast height and rude aspect, covered with snow, or enshaded in glaciers, in which this enchanting jewel is firmly set. At the foot of the exterior chain is an interior circle of hills, fertile in grass, abundant in trees and various sorts of vegetation, and full of all kinds of cattle, as cows, sheep, goats, gazelles, and musks. The approach to *Cashmere* is also very rugged and difficult. We have mentioned the mountains of *Bembar*; besides those is one on which the pioneers of *Aurangzeb* were obliged to cut through a *glaciers*, or a great mass, as *Bernier* calls it, of *icy snow*.

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"The capital of this happy spot is sometimes called *Cashmere*, sometimes *Srinagur*, and sometimes *Nagaz*, is seated in Lat. $34^{\circ} 12'$ North, on the banks of the river, which runs with a current most remarkably smooth. At a little distance from it is a small but beautiful lake, with a communication with the river by a navigable canal. The town was, in *Bernier's* time, three quarters of a French league long, built on both sides, and some part extended to the lake. Villas, mosques, and pagodas, decorate several of the little hills that border the water. The houses are built of wood, four stories high, some higher; the lower is for the cattle, the next for the family, the third and fourth serve as warehouses. The roofs are planted with tulips, which in the spring produce a wonderful effect. Roses, and numberless other flowers, ornament this happy clime. The inhabitants often visit the lake in their boats for the pleasure of hawking; the country abounding with cranes, and variety of game.

"The river, which rises at *Wair Naig*, near the southern part of the surrounding mountains; flows with a north-western course by the capital, and falls into lake *Ouller*, which is fifty-three miles in length, and lies in the northern part of the valley, not remote from the kingdom of great *Tibet*, then passes through the outlet at *Barehmooleh*, between two steep mountains, and from thence, after a long course, to its junction with the *Chunab*. This river is large and navigable, even within the limits of *Cashmere*. *Bernier*, p. 84, says, it carries boats as large as those on the Seine at Paris. Many small lakes are spread over the surface, and some of them contain floating islands. Among others, *Bernier*, p. 118, visited one, which he calls "A great lake amidst the mountains, which had ice in summer, and looked like a little icy sea, having heaps of ice made and unmade by the winds." This reminds me of the coalition and separation of the ice in the *Spitzbergen* seas. This in question may be like the *Ouller*, for I see none of any size in the maps, excepting that expanse of water.

"Among the miraculous waters of the natives, he reckons a periodical spring, or the ebbing and flowing well of *Sandbrare*, which has near to it the temple of the idol of *Brare*. The reader may amuse himself with the account, from p. 105 to 110 of this favourite writer; and at p. 117 those of another, much of the same nature.

"The author of the *Ayeen Akberry* dwells with rapture on the beauties of *Cashmere*; whence we may conclude, that it was a favorite subject with his master *Akbar*, who had visited it three times before *Abulfazal* wrote. Other emperors of *Hindoostan* visited it also, and seemed to forget the cares of government during their residence in the HAPPY VALLEY. By the salubrity of the air, and the cheering beauties of the place, they collected new vigor to resume the cares of government. The remains of the palaces, pavilion, and gardens, exhibit proofs of their elegance and splendor. It appears, that the periodical rains which almost deluge the rest of *India*, are shut out of *Cashmere* by the height of the mountains, so that only light showers fall there; these, however, are in abundance sufficient to feed the thousands of cascades which are precipitated into the valley from every part of the stupendous and romantic bulwark that encircles it. Amidst the various felicities of the *Cashmerians*, one dreadful evil they

are constantly subject to, namely, earthquakes : but to guard against their terrible effects, all their houses are built of wood, of which there is no want.

" The *Cashmerians* are esteemed a most witty race, and much more intelligent and ingenious than the *Hindoo*s, and as much addicted to the sciences and to poetry as the very *Persians*. They have a language of their own : but their books are written in the *Sanscrit* tongue, although the character be sometimes *Cashmerian*. They are also very industrious, and excellent mechanics. The various articles of their workmanship are sent into all parts of *India*. This race is famous for the fineness of their features, and their admirable complexions. They look like *Europeans*, and have nothing of the *Tartarian* flat-nosed face, and small eyes, like those of *Cashguer* and their neighbours of *Tibet*. It is certainly quite right, that this PARADISE, THE REGION OF ETERNAL SPRING, should be peopled with females angelic : they are uncommonly beautiful. The courtiers of the time of *Bernier* were most solicitous to obtain for their *Zennas* the *Cashmerian* fair, in order that they might have children whiter than the natives of *Hindostan*, in order that they might pass for the true *Mogul*-breed, congenecious with their monarch.

" The religion of the *Cashmerians* is the same as that of the *Hindoo*s ; possibly the pardonable superstition of the inhabitants, warmed by their romantic situation, may have multiplied the places of worship of *Mabadeo*, of *Beschan*, and of *Brama*. Here is a sect of religionists, free from idolatry, which worship the Deity alone. They are remarkably benevolent, and abstain from the other sex. They must therefore be continued by disciples. As to the *Mahometans*, they are not numerous, and those split into sects.

" The *Cashmerians* seem to have had an idea of the deluge, for, say they, in the early ages of the world, all *Cashmere*, except the mountains, was covered with water. One *Kushup* brought the *Brabmins* to inhabit the country as soon as the waters had subsided. Neither were they ignorant of the history of *Noah*, for the *Indians* speak of him under the name of *Sattiauraden*, who, with his wife, was by the god *Vichenou*, who sent to them an ark, preserved from destruction in a general deluge. The first monarch of the country was *Ouwganad*, who was elected, says *Abulfaxul*, 4444 years before his time.

" Here are numbers of hermits in places nearly inaccessible. They are highly venerated, some being supposed to have power to excite the fury of the elements. *Bernier*, p. 104, found an antient anchore, who had inhabited the summit of the lofty mountain *Pire-pen-jale* ever since the time of *Jehangire*, who was here in 1618. His religion was unknown. To him was attributed the power of working miracles. He caused at his pleasure great thunders, and raised storms of hail, rain, snow, and wind. He looked savage, having a large white beard uncombed, which, like that of our Druid, " streamed like a meteor to the troubled air." The sage forbid the making the least noise, on pain of raising furious storms and tempests." P. 45.

The view which Mr. Pennant has given his readers of the Ghaut mountains, is very grand and picturesque. Indeed the features

features of this vast and varied country are all of a bold and prominent kind, and to pourtray them properly, requires a vigorous and animated pencil.

" From the word *Ghaut* the whole chain derives its name. They give entrance into the lofty, fertile, and populous plains of boundless view, which they support in the manner as buttresses do a terrace, formed on an immense scale. These run not remote from the sea from *Surat* to *Cape Comorin*, at some places seventy miles distant, but generally forty, and in one place they advance to within six. They have lesser hills at their bases, clothed with forests, particularly of the valuable *teak*. The plains are blest, from their situation, with a cool and healthy air. From the sides of the mountains precipitate magnificent cataracts, forming torrents, the means of facilitating the conveyance of the timber, and giving a thousand picturesque scenes amidst the forests.

" The *Ghauts* are distinguished into the western and the eastern. The first extend, as I have described, uninterruptedly from *Surat* to the pass of *Palicanidbery*, when near *Coimbatore* they suddenly turn, deeply undulating to the north. Then, at the pass of *Gujetberry*, wind north and north-easterly as high as *Amboor* and *Mugglee*, the last about eighty miles due west of *Madras*. From hence they are not, by reason of the numbers of branches, sufficiently marked on the maps: they seem to take a northerly course, to comprehend *Aurangabad*, to cross the *Taped*, and continue westerly, at irregular distances from the river, till they arrive at a certain space from *Surat*.

" The whole chain, especially in the *Concan*, seems a connected wall, inaccessible to the summit, unless by paths worked by the hand of man, and is not to be ascended even by a single traveller, without the fatiguing labour of many hours; horrible precipices, roaring cataracts, and frequent reverberating echoes, terrify the passenger on each side; often violent gusts arise, and hurry men and cattle into the black immeasurable abyss. Having attained the summit, the trouble is repaid by the magnificent prospect to the west, of the far subjacent country, broken into hills, and clothed with beautiful vegetation; the coast, the islands, and the immensity of ocean.

These *Indian Appenines* mark with precision the limits of the winter and summer, or rather the wet and dry seasons, in *India*. They extend thirteen degrees of latitude, from *Surat* to *Cape Comorin*. They arrest the great body of clouds in their passage, and, according to the *Monsoons*, or periodical winds from the north-east or south-west, give, alternately, a dry season to one side, and a wet one to the other; some clouds do pass over, and give a rainy season, but at a very considerable distance to the leeward; being too high and too light to condense and fall in rain, within a small distance of this great range." P. 88.

These extracts will sufficiently impress the reader with an idea of the accuracy of the geographical details. The subsequent quotation relates to the general mode of being conveyed over the surface of the country so described; it also contains a specimen of the manner in which the natural history of Hindostan is discussed, rapidly indeed, but the infinite variety of
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the objects, and the great extent of the region, allowed not of more minute investigation.

“ The method of travelling which begins at *Surat*, and is continued through most parts of *India*, is by oxen. The ox supplies the use of the horse; the smaller sort serve as pads, the larger are used in drawing a kind of carriage called a *hackerie*. The beasts are commonly white, have black noses, and large perpendicular horns: they are also remarkable, like most other *Indian* and *African* cattle, for a hunch rising between the shoulders. Those of *Guzerat* are most remarkably large, and in great request through most parts of *India*. The hunch is highly esteemed as a delicacy, salted and boiled. When they are fitted for the saddle or the draft, a cord, and sometimes a piece of wood is passed through the nose from nostril to nostril, and a cord extended from each end, as a bridle. *M. Sonnerat*, vol. i, tab. 7, gives a print of the *Hackerie* or *Gari*, as it is called in *India*, and all its apparatus. In *England*, if these creatures are forced out of their usual slow paces, it is too well known that they will faint, or lie down under their burthen; but at *Bombay*, they trot and gallop as naturally as horses, and are equally as serviceable in every other respect, except that, by their being subject to a loose habit of body, they sometimes incommode the traveller by the filth thrown upon him by the continual motion of their tails. Whenever they get to the end of the journey, the driver always alights, and puts the near bullock in the other's place; then he puts his hand into both their mouths, and after pulling out the froth, mounts his box again and drives back. It seems this precaution is absolutely necessary, for as they travel at the rate of seven or eight miles an hour, they would otherwise be in danger of suffocation.

“ Besides the large species which I have engraven in vol. i. tab. ii. of my *Hist. Quadr.* is a diminutive species, tab. iii, common at *Surat*, not bigger than a large dog, which has a fierce look, but is trained to draw children in their little carts. I have been informed, that a bull and cow from, I believe the *Tanjore* country, have been imported into *England*, the height of the first not exceeding nineteen inches, and of the last not eighteen.

“ Being on the subject of animals, I shall mention a species of the next genus, the sheep. That called *Cabrito* by the *Portuguese*, is a very long legged kind, and of a very disgusting appearance. At *Goa* it is sometimes saddled and bridled, and serves instead of a poney, and will carry a child of twelve years of age.

“ About *Bombay* is found the squirrel, *Hist. Quadr.* ii. No. 336, known by the name of the place; it is very large, and of a purple colour.

“ I must now digress to a very different class. The tribe of snakes is very numerous in *India*. I think their great historiographer, *M. de la Cépède*, enumerates forty-four species already known. I shall only mention the most curious: I am uncertain whether they are quite local. *Mr. Ives* speaks of some found in this island or neighborhood; the *Cobra Capello* I shall describe some time hence. *Mr. Ives* relates, that the *Cobra Manilla* is only a foot long, of a bluish color, haunting old walls. Its bite is as fatal as that of the *Cobra Capello*, which kills in the

the space of a quarter of an hour. The *Cobra de Aurellia* is only six inches long, and not thicker than the quill of a crow; it is apt to creep into the ear, and occasion death by madness. The sand snake is small, but not less fatal than the others. The *Palmira*, with a viperine head, and varied body, is four feet long, yet in no part thicker than a swan's quill.

"Among the variety of beautiful shells found on the coast, is the noted *Turbo Scalaris*, or *Wentle-trap*, a shell seldom an inch and a quarter long, of a pearly color, and with about seven spires, each having several elegant ridges, crossing them from the first spire to the last; a fine representation of the winding staircase. A painter I knew, filled with the *Comcha-mania*, once gave fifty-six guineas for three of them, one alone he valued at twenty-five.

"Some few other things, respecting the natural history of *Bombay* and its neighborhood, may be here taken notice of. The diseases of *India* begin to shew themselves in this place, but I shall only attend to the *Barbiers*, which is more prevalent on this side of the peninsula of *India* than the other. It is a palsy, which takes its name from *Berberit*, or the sheep, as the afflicted totter in their gait like that animal when seized with a giddiness. Its symptoms are both a numbness, a privation of the use of the limbs, a tremor, and an attendant titillation usually not fatal, but extremely difficult of cure. It comes on slowly, and usually in the rainy season; but if a person drinks hastily, when heated, a large draught of *Toddy*, or the liquor of the coco nut, the attack of the disease is very sudden. *Bontius* (*English* edition, p. 1), treats largely of the cure. He recommends strongly baths or fomentations of the *Nachile* of the *Malabars*, or *Lagondi* of the *Malays*, or the *Jasminum Indicum*.

"The phenomenon of small fish appearing in the rainy season, in places before dry, is as true as it is surprising. The natives begin to fish for them the tenth day after the first rains, and they make a common dish at the tables. Many are the modes of accounting for this annual appearance. It has been suggested that the spawn may have been brought by the water fowl, or may have been caught up by the *Typhons*, which rage at the commencement of the wet season, and be conveyed in the torrents of rain. I can only give an explanation much less violent: That these fishes never had been any where but near the places where they are found. That they have had a pre-existent state, and began life in form of frogs; that it had been the *Rana paradoxa* of *Gm. Linn.* iii. p. 10, 55. Their transformation is certainly wonderful. I refer the reader to *Seba*, i. p. 125, tab. 78; and to *Merian's Sarrman*, p. 71, tab. 71, in which are full accounts of the wonderful phenomenon of these transmuted reptiles, which complete their last transformation in the first rains.

"All kinds of reptiles appear about that season, among others, toads of most enormous sizes. Mr. *Ives* mentions one that he supposed weighed between four and five pounds; and measured, from the toe of the fore to that of the hind leg, twenty-two inches." P. 99.

After the above descriptive progress through *Western Hindoostan*, to which alone the first volume is confined, the author arrives

arrives at Cape Comorin, and passing *Adam's Bridge* at the extremity, (which should have been noticed as a mistake, for it ought to be *Ramas Bridge*) enters on his tour through Ceylon, an island, the account of which, from its present connection with the British empire in India, and its vast importance to our commerce, will probably excite more general attention than what concerns the often-travelled continent of India. After noticing the inaccurate descriptions of Ceylon and its productions, by the ancient geographers of Greece and Rome, by the Portuguese, and the Dutch, Mr. P. proceeds to consider the more authentic narrations of our countryman Knox, of Sonnerat, of Baron Thunberg; and details the private communications of a learned naturalist, his particular friend, the late John Gideon Loten, Esq. who resided a considerable time in Ceylon, and filled various offices of importance, under the Batavian government. To this gentleman he confesses himself indebted for the materials of his *Indian Zoology*, and from the same source the reader is here presented with a more complete account of the natural history of this celebrated island than the public has yet seen. But we shall reserve that subject for the close of our review of the second volume. We are at present principally concerned with the topographical part, and our readers may not be displeased to see the following general account of the island.

“ The form and extent of the isle of *Ceylon*, are very much undetermined. The figure which is generally adopted in the maps, is that of a pear, with the stalk turned towards the north. The length, from *Dondra-head* south, to *Tellipeli* north, is about two hundred and eighty miles; the greatest breadth, or from *Columbo* to *Trincoli*, is about a hundred and sixty. The latitudes of the two extremes in length, are between $5^{\circ} 50' 0''$, and $9^{\circ} 51'$. Its extremes of longitude are $79^{\circ} 50'$, and $82^{\circ} 10'$.

“ The island rises from on every side to the mountains, which run in chains, principally from north to south. The highest and rudest tract is the kingdom of *Conde Uda*, which is impervious, by reason of rocks and forests, except by narrow paths, which are also impeded by gates of thorns, closely watched by guards. At the western skirt of these mountains soars *Hamalill*, and, in the *European* language, *Adam's Peak*. It rises pre-eminent above all the rest, in form of a sugar loaf. *Le Brun*, ii, p. 81, gives a view as it appears from the sea. On the summit is a flat stone, with an impression resembling a human foot, two feet long, it is called that of our great and common ancestor. The *Cingalese*, or aborigines of *Ceylon*, say that it is of *Buddo*, their great deity, when he ascended into heaven, from whom they expect salvation. The *Mahometan* tradition is, that *Adam* was cast down from *Paradise* (we make his *Paradise* an earthly one) and fell on this summit, and *Eve* near *Judda*, in *Arabia*.” P. 188.

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Its capital, and noble, but only secure haven, are thus described. We presume the account was written before Trincomale again became subject to the British empire.

"The city of *Jaffanapatam* stands on the western side of one of the isles; this retains its *Cingalese* name; most of the other places in the neighborhood have been changed to *Dutch*. When the city was taken from the natives by the *Portuguese*, in 1560, they found in the treasury the tooth of an ape, so highly venerated by the people of *Ceylon*, that immense sums were offered for its redemption, but in vain. To destroy this piece of idolatry, the viceroy ordered it to be reduced to powder, and then burnt. Apes are in many parts of *India* highly venerated, out of respect to the god *Hannaman*, a deity partaking of the form of that race, with the addition of heads of bears, who rendered the god *Vishnu* great services in this very isle, slaying giants, and performing so many wondrous deeds. In vol. iii. p. 863, of *Churchill's* collection, is a long detail of his exploits. There is a wonderful extravagance in the *Indian* mythology; the warmth of their climate creates ideas filled with the strangest imagery. The tooth was probably worshipped as one belonging to his godship.

"Most of the eastern side of *Ceylon* is guarded with sand banks or rocks. *Trincomale* harbour is in Lat. 8° 30', a fine and secure port, protected by a strong garrison, consisting of about four hundred men. Such was the number in fort *Ostenburgh*, when it was taken by assault, on *January* 11, 1782, by our brave seaman, Sir *Edward Hughes*; which, on *August* 26 of the same year, was wrested from us by his active and gallant rival *Suffrein*." P. 252.

This first volume contains nine well-executed plates, those of a botanical kind, of remarkable beauty and delicacy; the work, if not original, is curious and interesting, and we shall with pleasure return to the consideration of it in our next number.

(To be concluded in our next.)

ART. VIII. *Considerations upon the State of Public Affairs, in the Year 1798. Part the Third. The domestic State and general Policy of Great Britain.* 8vo. 105 pp. 2s. 6d. *Rivingtons, and Hatchard.* 1798.

THIS able and sagacious writer continues to merit and attract the attention of the public. He continues also, on general topics of policy, an ally of the present administration; and such an ally, as in our opinion, any government should be glad to have; one who, by the undisguised strength of his reprehension,

prehenſion, where he differs in opinion, proves the complete ſincerity of his praiſe when he approves. The general tendency of the pamphlet is to enforce the idea, that, under the preſent circumſtances of Europe, we muſt regard a ſtate of war as our inevitable and permanent ſituation, probably for ſeveral years to come; and muſt provide by rigid œconomy, and the moſt prudent plans of finance, for the poſſibility of continuing and flouriſhing under that ſtate. All this he holds to be perfectly practicable, and endeavours even to point out the means. This part of his tract is replete with original ideas and ſound arguments, very forcibly expreſſed. The point on which he differs moſt eſſentially from the miniſtry, and againſt which he burſts out on every poſſible occaſion, with every imaginable variety of inveſtive, is the negotiation of peace at Lille. On this topic he out-Burkes Burke, by an inexhauſtible profuſion of metaphors; all expreſſing contempt and abhorrence of the thing, and the moſt triumphant ſatisfaction at the rejection of our offers, “that proſperous defeat, that fortunate diſgrace, that happy calamity.”—“From the very hour and moment,” he adds, “in which we turned our back upon Lille, our affairs have aſſumed another aſpect, every ſun has ſhine out brighter, and a warmer glow has gilded our horizon” (p. 26). But though we agree moſt fully, that ſuch a peace as could then have been made, would have been pregnant with our utter ruin, yet we are far from thinking it poſſible, that after the flagitious pains which had been employed to inflame the natural deſire for peace into a blind and inordinate craving, the eyes of the nation ever could have been opened, without ſuch offers as ſhould prove to them, that nothing but our immediate and undisguiſed ruin would ſatisfy the haughty tyrants of France. Without the diſcoveries which that negotiation made public, the evil-minded would ſtill be whining for peace, and the weak and wavering would all be joining in the chorus; and that unanimity which now diſtinguiſhes our meaſures, would have been altogether unattainable. So poſſible is it to differ totally, even from a writer whom in general we admire, on the ſubject wherein he is moſt poſitive and moſt violent. Yet he blames, as he declares, with unwillingneſs. Speaking of the miniſters, he ſays,

“If I liſt my voice it is not in anger; I have not forgotten that they have often defended their country, though in a moment of weakneſs, they expoſed its fate! I have not forgotten that they have ſteered the veſſel proſperous and ſafe through the tempeſt of war, and the night of revolution; that in the ſtrife and anarchy of all the moral elements, in the chaos and confuſion, and darkneſs and collision, of every principle and paſſion of man, they have maintained him in ſociety, and defended

defended for him, the laws and the religion of liberty; the well-being, the enjoyments, the advantages and endearments of civilized life; the just ambition, the aspiring virtue, the pious hope, the sanctity of his nature! That they have kept alive the sacred spark, the particle of the breath divine, the dignity of life and the sacred sustaining hope of immortality!" P. 25.

With respect to the change of sentiments in many who had formerly opposed government, he says :

" Need I mention circumstances not less fortunate nor less auspicious to the safety and final triumph of the kingdom? the conversion I will not say of all that was virtuous, in our parties, but of all that was not lost to virtue and tired of her; of all that was not sick and weary of the dregs of reputation; all that was not mad as well as wicked, all that was not prepared and resolute to throw off even the hypocrisy that gave them power to do mischief, and to disarm their treachery by professing their malevolence. Conspiracies were detected, clubs despised and ridiculed, a new light broke in upon the people, and shewed in their native colours of depravity, those pretended friends, whose only services had been to invite the enemy into the country, to weaken our force and discourage our efforts, and expose and betray us to the enemy they invited. The country was saved. A spirit had gone forth, and it breathed fresh health and vigour on the land. Every breast beat high, and every hand was armed; and though the tempest howled from the opposite shore, and every wind waisted the din of preparation, the kingdom never shewed a more serene and untroubled aspect." P. 33.

But as the part in which this author speaks of the operation of time in our favour is most important as well as new, from that we will take our principal selections. The enemy that he most fears, he tells us, is expenditure. The power of France is much less formidable in his eyes. Yet he allows her physical strength.

" I shall again be told that I under-rate and decry the enemy : and again unjustly.—France I know it, is a *great nation*. Who, more than myself have shewn the danger of her greatness? But she is a great nation, as a giant is a great man.—The consciousness of her force is her courage, and she relies upon her bulk for success.—She possesses no moral superiority to other nations; she has no arts unknown to us, no superiority of talents and address, no arms that we do not wield, no science that we do not employ. Her weight is her sole preponderance. Her physical strength is her only boast. Why then consider her preposterous menace of invasion, even suppose our navy out of the way, with all this terror and apprehension,—are we no more than naked natives of some new-discovered isle, who know no empire but our own, who had never seen the waters ploughed, nor heard the cannon's thunder, nor beheld the features of another race of men? Or have our troops fled before this giant on the continent? Or has he never landed on our soil and been conquered there? Has he never aided our rebels
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in other times? Are these the first threats he has made, or the first injuries he has inflicted? And when he has perished on our shores or in our seas, will it be any thing new in the history of his defeats and calamities?" P. 42.

But on the subject of time, he argues both with reference to the enemy and to ourselves.

"I do not, however, compute the war upon the continent as one of these circumstances which are necessary to enable us to endure. I am sure, that with economy, and attention to the public spirit, we can endure without any collateral aid and assistance; and while we do so, if no war should take place at all, what is the consequence for France? The continent will respire, while she is exhausted and consumes; her enemy recovers, while she pants and bleeds; every hour takes something from her strength, and adds it to her danger; while she wastes and decays, and tends to dissolution, the power of Austria inhales a new youth, and a new health, and a new vigour. Her new dominions are consolidated and coalesced, her defences are prepared, her communications opened, her troops recruited, her revenues repaired. But what revenue has France if there is peace on the continent? or can she plunder afresh, without creating war? What finance has she at home? what just and permanent sources of income? Let us suppose her to forbear her vexations in foreign states, the war must then be supported by her credit or by taxation. Her credit is nothing without the bayonette; her taxation too requires an army.—But suppose her taxation peaceable; is it not here that I expect her? is it not here that she will regret her commerce, her industry, her consumption? will she not at last perceive the loss of her nobles and her merchants? but she will make her impositions direct and numerical; she will excise every house and every head! will she not miss then at length her population? will she not deplore her castles burned and her cities razed and ploughed over? will she not lament her empty villages and her untilled fields?"

"I know of no alternative under which time is not unfavourable to France, as well as favourable to her enemies. If she cannot or dare not tax herself, she must plunder and usurp. In that case, unless I much misjudge the state of Europe, new wars await her. If she taxes, I think there is some danger for her government, and a certain period of debility and physical exhaustion for the nation. If she escapes both of these, I do not still perceive the danger which M. de Calonne apprehends for England. I cannot fear from the "expedition with which she may construct ships, nor the interval she may consume without putting them to sea." Without peace she never can possess a body of seamen; with this caution and delay she will not possess a sailor, she will lose her art along with her artificers. This formidable marine, prepared but unemployed, equipped with all its masts and blocks, its canvasses and its cordage, perfect in ribs of oak and iron, but unmanned or manned with requisitions of landmen, I will dread as I do a carcass without a soul.

"TIME, however, I am told not only is and will be, but has been our enemy—upon matter of fact it is not expected that I should
bow

how to any authority.—There is no presumption in contending for the past. The past is most properly our own. The past, from which providence has taken his Almighty hand, upon which he has exhausted his eternal power. Here I may contend with M. de Calonne, as if I were his equal, and I will vindicate, at least with a grateful mind, the benefits we have derived from time. To do this at length would be to set down the history of the war and the revolution; I confine myself to narrower bounds. If the war with all its errors and all its calamities, with all its misconduct, and all its misfortunes, with all its prodigality and waste, with its defeats and surrenders, with its wrecks and its fevers, unbalanced by any suffering or disaster of the enemy, uncompensated by any victory or any acquisition of our own.—If the war with all its real and imputed evils, with all those from ourselves, from our enemies, and from above, exaggerated to the very height and pitch of malice and detraction, has obtained but this one naked solitary benefit of *time*, for Europe, I think it has been cheaply purchased with our bravest blood, and our purest tears.—If it has only kept back our people from the medicated bowl and treacherous banquet, while those who had feasted on them had time to perish and transform, and make known by their blotches and their cries the poisons they had swallowed.—If it has only given *time* to the world to wait the event and contemplate the example, I can regret only with private sorrows its particular sacrifices and the generous victims it has exacted—as a public man, as a member of the great commonwealth of humanity, I must applaud and be grateful.

“Is time our enemy? Is time the ally and friend of our enemy, which has not only detected and unmasked his plots, but made himself abjure and renounce and execrate the barbarous principles he let loose upon mankind? Is time our enemy, which has punished Pethion by Robespierre, and Robespierre by Tallien? Which has thrown Tallien at the foot of Reubell and Barras? Which has made Barras and Reubell overthrow the regicide republic, and depend for impunity and existence, upon a preposterous and ridiculous usurpation? An usurpation which has neither dynasty nor antiquity, nor reverence, nor enthusiasm, nor superstition, nor law, nor utility, nor favour, nor any thing but redoubling accumulating evil, and perpetual growing tyranny to support it? Is time our enemy, which has exposed the crimes and consumed the resources of our enemy? Which has swallowed up his navy and his commerce, which has exhausted his plunder and recruits, which has consumed his trades, his arts, his banks, his capitals, his credit, his mechanism, and manufactures? Which has spent his forests and demesnes? Which has absorbed his cities and his people? Or is time our enemy, which has supplanted Dumouriez, Pichegru, Carnot, and Bartenlémi, and raised up his Merlins and Massénas? Which has discovered his sordid avarice and peculation, and armed the states of America? Which has displayed his faithless flag in the pacified capital of Germany? Which has opened the eyes of our people, detected our clubs, converted our opposition, and defeated our rebellions? Is time our enemy, which has made our government repentant and ashamed of their projects and conferences, and abject petitions for peace? Which
has

has awakened our understanding, and confirmed our spirit; and discovered our resources?"

"Time then, I date to assert, is the enemy of every false and vicious system, and the best friend of Britain and her cause, and of Europe, because the cause of Britain is her own. But Time without economy, without a just and provident combination of exertion and resource, I confess is pregnant of every danger and every evil. Time; like other friends, may be turned against us by our own neglect, misconduct, or abuse." P. 79.

The apology for his free and unrestrained dissension on some public measures, seems to be included by the author in the following passage.

"There is no opposition in our kingdom, and if the friends of government should never presume to differ from them, there would be no liberty of opinion in the first place, and in the result no benefit from discussion and collision. Whether there will ever again arise another parliamentary opposition in this country, or whether our practical constitution shall settle upon some new arch or pillar, is a question that I have not leisure to discuss under the pressure and crisis of still greater affairs. But I have no difficulty in saying, that it is now the most serious and incumbent duty of the real friends of government to supply in some degree that important chasm and defect; and giving them upon the one hand every aid and support which the general cause demands, and which the profligacy of the last opposition, which (to use their own jargon) has identified the ministers with the constitution, renders urgent and indispensable, to assume some care and vigilance over the authority, shall I say? or the unbounded power which the necessity of the state has confided to their hands. The enemies of government have forfeited the powers of good and harm; they have lost alike the means of utility and of mischief: and if its friends will not or may not speak, there is neither liberty nor candour, nor integrity; and there will not be, very long or very certainly, any fixed or any public policy in the management of the state." P. 89.

After giving these specimens, we will not pay our readers so ill a compliment as to tell them, what they must of themselves perceive, that this author writes with energy and spirit. The great quality which distinguishes him, in our opinion, from all writers who have fallen under our notice, is a general and just and clear comprehension of political tendencies and interests, not only in this kingdom, but throughout Europe. His line of policy is generous and bold; his view penetrating; his judgment rarely erroneous: and, if erroneous, only made so by excess of eagerness in the right. If he makes too frequent and too wide excursions into the field of metaphor, it is a fault from which his master, Burke, was not exempt: and though he must be deemed an imitator of that original, his
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Imagination less frequently misleads his judgment, and he imitates like a man who could have formed an original style, if he had not met with one which he very greatly approved.

ART. IX. *Poems by the late George Monck Berkeley, Esq. LL. B. F. S. S. A. with a Preface, by the Editor, consisting of some Anecdotes of Mr. Monck Berkeley and several of his Friends.* 4to. 1l. 11s. d. Leigh and Sotheby. 1797.

THE editor is Mrs. Berkeley, the mother of the author, in whose singular, but, in many instances, entertaining preface, we meet with what would disarm any critic of severity.

"In Mr. Monck Berkeley's benevolent vindication, in the Author's Preface to the Poems, he exhorts to remember that the Reviewers are but MEN. If those Gentlemen condescend to review a few pages written by a feminine pen, the Editor wishes them to remember, that she is a *Woman*, a suffering *OLD Woman*, with most of the accomplishments at threefold that most females have at "the age of man," ten years later—that she served an apprenticeship to *extreme anxiety and anguish* for very near seven years—seeing daily the declining state of health of the two nearest and dearest connections in life, obliged to *afflict* ease, and often sheerfulness, whilst her heart bled at every vein. Unfortunately for her, both Father and Son, through their lives, declared, that if the Editor's constant, even cheerfulness, never high, never low, failed, both would give themselves up to absolute despair. The strong exertions necessary to act the part to *their* satisfaction have certainly brought on a premature old age; and the Editor, according to the witty, wise, pious, Bishop Taylor, "is quite ready-dressed for the grave," whither she seems hastening apace. The Bishop, in his "Holy Dying," says, "dim eyes, gray hairs, stiff joints," &c. &c. are all so many "*dressings* for the grave." He does not add dulled faculties; I am sure he might, although perhaps, *he* might not feel it; his own wit being *too well* tempered to have the keenness of its edge blunted by aught but death itself. That is the lot of but very few. P. cclxiv.

We certainly meet with much that might well be spared in these introductory pages; but there are many curious anecdotes and pleasant tales. For example:

"Mr. Berkeley having been always told by his Father, that Dean Swift was the introducer of his Grandfather when he came young into England, to the learned and the great, occasioned his, from a boy, being a great admirer of that wonderful man, and his so zealously labouring to vindicate his fame in the Preface to his Literary relics
from

from some horridly false aspersions, and palliating his *bad* conduct as Stella and Vanessa*." P. cccclxxxv.

" Archbishop Potter told the late Archdeacon Dodwell the following anecdote of his father's excellent friend.

" King William, who valued himself much on his horsemanship, was frequently mortified by hearing his courtiers admiring Mr. Cherry's wonderful skill in riding, and resolved at length that he would follow Mr. Cherry every where. After some days, Mr. Cherry, finding that it was not chance that constantly kept his Majesty just behind him, determined to try to serve his, as he conceived, *lawful* Sovereign, by breaking the neck of the *Usurper*. He went over many very dangerous places. The King, excellently mounted, and a very good horseman, still followed. One day, when the stag took the soil, Mr. Cherry instantly plunged into a frightfully deep and broad part of the Thames. The King went to the brink, looked, and looked again, then shook his head, and retired. His Majesty thought the actual possession of *three* kingdoms better than the *same* of being as good a horseman as Mr. Cherry, thus yielding the palm to Mr. Cherry. He never fol-

* " Unless it is allowed, what the Editor herself *firmly* believes, from what she learned from Dr. Berkeley's very old beloved friend, Dean Delany—that both Dean Swift and Mrs. Johnson were actually the children of Sir William Temple, and the heavy tidings arrived not until the day on which the indissoluble knot was tied. Surely a *Spiritual* Court ought to have power to set such unfortunate persons at liberty. Some years ago the eldest son of a gentleman of great estate was exceedingly in love with an heiress of large fortune: the father threw cold water on it—the old gentleman persisted in refusing to give his consent—at length, violently urged by his son to find an objection to an accomplished, beautiful, rich heiress, he replied, " You d——d fool, the world is wide enough for you to find a wife, without marrying your own sister: that young lady is my daughter; therefore give up all thoughts of her." He did so, and married another lady. The beloved object for ever gone, Miss —— married the first man of large fortune that her parents recommended to her; but the loss of her first accomplished lover gave an unfortunate shock to her fine understanding. She early in life became a widow. The last time the Editor saw her, there appeared a sort of melancholy restlessness, that could not fail to distress every feeling heart that knew the cause. This lady had every thing *this* world could furnish, to produce happiness; two fine children, a son and daughter, both magnificently provided for. But she had not the society of the only man on earth whom she could love. She saw him happy with another. Had she learned to *feel*, as well as *say*, " Thy will be done on earth, as it is in Heaven," it had been happy for her; had she humbly, patiently submitted, instead of sadly murmuring, and sadly cavilling, as she used alas! to do at some parts of Scripture. But what piety was it likely should be instilled into her mind by her *direfully* ADULTEROUS MOTHER, who was not suspected until this affair of this match."

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lowed him afterwards, to the great comfort of his Majesty's attendants." The late Sir Robert Gayer, of Stoke Park, near Windsor, absolutely refused to let King William in to see his house, his Majesty waiting in his coach at the door—poor Lady Gayer supplicating—His answer, "No, he is an Usurper. Every man in England is King in his own castle. He shall not come in." So his Majesty returned to Windsor, and died without seeing Stoke House.

"During the reign of King William, Mr. Cherry always on hunting days rode up to the Princess of Denmark's calash, (the chaise in which her Royal Highness hunted was so called,) to pay his respects. The Princess admired his conversation, his uncommonly fine understanding, and exquisitely high breeding, as politeness (now said to be *horribly* old fashioned) was termed in those *awkward* days. On her obtaining a crown, she lost the conversation of Mr. Cherry, who was too correctly well bred to think of approaching that thoroughly respectable Princess to insult her; and no bribe could ever have induced him to acknowledge himself her subject, *whilst* her father and brother were living; Mr. Cherry took great pains, as far as the oath of a woman of the bed-chamber to King James's Queen could ascertain it, to be fully convinced that the Chevalier de St. George was *actually* produced by his Queen. The oath of the facts to which the lady swore was carefully preserved by Mr. Cherry; and accordingly, the first day that her Majesty hunted after her accession to the throne, Mr. Cherry kept *aloof* from *Rojalty*. Her Majesty called to her officer, known in those days by the name of the *Bottle-man*, saying,

"Peachy, if my eyes do not deceive me, I see Mr. Cherry upon the field.

"Peachy.—"Yes, please your Majesty, he is yonder." (pointing with his whip.)

"The Queen.—"Aye, he will not come to *me now*. I know the reason. But go you, and carry him a couple of bottles of red wine and white *from me*; and tell him, that I esteem him one of the honestest gentlemen in my dominions." P. ccccxvi.

Of the poetry we do not think so highly as the Editor; and, in particular, the song which maternal fondness calls exquisitely beautiful, appears to us without point, spirit, or excellence of any kind. See p. 109 of the Poems.

The following, however, have much ease, elegance, and harmony.

"RUMORA; OR, THE MAID OF RAASA.

"Raasa, by thy rocky shore,
Vocal to the Ocean's roar,
Cliffs, that have for ages stood
Barriers to the briny Flood,
Beneath your dark, your dismal shade,
Wandering wept a woe-worn Maid,
Whilst the pauses of the gale
Each she fill'd with sorrow's tale.

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BRIT. CRIT. VOL. XII, AUGUST, 1798.

Burling

Bursting from the sable sky,
 See the forked Lightnings fly,
 Whilst their sad destructive light
 Gilds awhile the gloom of Night!
 Trembling to the blasts that blow,
 Gazing on the gulph below,
 Yielding to the ruthless storm,
 Drooping mark yon Angel Form,
 Round whose face divinely fair
 Loosely streams her golden hair!
 To the rock's sublimest seat
 Fate has led her wandering feet;
 Yawning wide the greedy Deep
 Woos her to eternal sleep.
 By the Lightning's vivid glare
 Saw you not yon frantic stare?
 By the Tempest's lurid light,
 Mark her plunge to endless Night!
 Struggling mid the boiling wave,
 Nature, frighted at the Grave,
 To the rude, the rocky strand
 Faintly points her languid hand.
 Cease, ye blasts, awhile to blow,
 Drown not now the wail of woe!
 Heard ye not yon piercing groan
 That proclaim'd her spirit flown?
 Whilst it soars on seraph wing,
 Roaring waves her Requiem sing.
 Still, by Raafa's sea-girt shore,
 Blue-ey'd Maids her fate deplore;
 From the cliffs sublime and steep
 Cast thy Garlands in the Deep,
 Marking thus the day's return,
 Still Rumora's fate they mourn." P. 1.

" ELEGIAC BALLAD. TO HENRY M'KENZIE*, ESQ.

" Dimm'd were the beamy stars of night,
 The moon had veil'd her temp'rate light;
 The gale was rude, the gale was high,
 And cheerless shew'd the low'ring sky;
 All hous'd within an aged yew,
 Whose boughs were dank with midnight dew,
 Night's lonely bird, with fad'ning strain,
 Awoke the echo of the plain;
 While still the sweet responsive maid,
 From forth her dark, unnotic'd shade,
 Repeated slow the doleful tale,
 And faintly gave it to the gale.

* " Author of ' The Man of Feeling,' &c."

'Twas then the church-yard's hollow sod
 With frantic step poor Nancy trod ;
 She sought the spot where Henry slept,
 And o'er his grave in anguish wept.
 Fond Friendship's hand had planted there
 Such flowrets wild as woodlands bear ;
 The cowslip sweet, the vi'let blue,
 There drank soft Pity's falling dew ;
 The pansy pale, the wild rose red,
 Were cluster'd round her Henry's head ;
 And, waving o'er the thorn-bound grave,
 The woodbine there its fragrance gave.
 Beside the spot a willow grew,
 Of love, like her's, the emblem true ;
 From that one votive branch she broke,
 And thus the lovely mourner spoke :
 " Who can the friendly charm impart
 To heal poor Nancy's broken heart ?
 On this green grave she rests her head,
 To weep her friend, her true-love dead.
 Then from the tomb, dear youth, return,
 Nor longer let thy Nancy mourn ;
 In pity quit the cheerless grave,
 And from despair thy Nancy save.
 He comes, he comes ; I see him now
 On yonder mountain's spiry brow ;
 At Nancy's call I knew he'd come,
 To soothe her grief, and lead her home.
 Ah, me ! he's gone ; he shuns these arms.
 Can Henry scorn his Nancy's charms ?
 Ah, no ! ah, no ! my Henry's dead.
 Then be this grave my bridal bed."
 All o'er the grave her form she threw,
 Her tresses sleeping in the dew ;
 On Heav'n she fix'd her azure eyes,
 She sigh'd, she sunk, no more to rise.
 Ye favour'd few, who know to love,
 Who Sorrow's sacred pleasures prove ;
 To where these lovers sleep repair,
 And Pity's self shall meet you there." P. 27.

The size to which this volume is extended, by the inex-
 haustible effusions of a very amiable partiality, will unavoid-
 ably impede its sale ; yet we have shown that it contains ma-
 terials of an attractive kind ; and certainly do not regret the
 time employed in the examination.

ART. X. *A New System of Physiology, comprehending the Laws by which animated Beings in general, and the Human Species in particular, are governed, in their several States of Health and Disease. By Richard Saumarez, Surgeon to the Magdalen Hospital. Two Volumes. 8vo. 433 and 548 pp. 14s. Johnson, &c. 1798.*

THE contents of this work are much more ample than the title might induce us to expect; since the author extends his observations to the vegetable kingdom also, and treats the subject not only in a strictly physiological way, but likewise morally and metaphysically.

The first volume is divided into two parts; the first of which contains eighteen chapters, under the following titles: I. Of the general Properties of common, of living, and of dead Matter. II. On the particular Properties of living, and dead Matter. III. Of common Matter. IV. Of the Materialists. V. Of the Oxygenous Philosophers. VI. Of the Brunonian System. VII. Of Dr. Darwin's Doctrine. VIII. The Procession of living Beings. IX. Final Cause of vegetable Existence. X. Final Cause of brutal Existence. XI. The sentient Principle is not the same as the living. XII. The final Cause of human Existence. XIII. Of the Means by which the final Cause of human Existence is attained. XIV. Of the College of Physicians. XV. Of the Corporation of Surgeons. XVI. Of the Means by which Individuals attain the final Cause of their Existence. XVII. The Relation Man bears to the Deity. XVIII. The Relation of Deity to Man.

The second part of the first volume treats *Of the Organs, as the Instruments through which animated Beings fulfil the final Cause of their Existence*; and is divided into eight chapters; viz. I. Of the anatomical Structure of the vegetable System. II. Of the Decomposition and Death of the vegetable System. III. Of vegetable Temperature. IV. Of the Mode of Propagation in different animal Systems, from the most simple to the more complicated. V. Of the Mode of Generation of the Kangaroo. VI. Of the proximate Cause of Œstrum. VII. Of Propagation in the human Species; and of Menstruation. VIII. Of the Testes, or generating Organs of the Male.

The second volume contains twenty-four chapters under the following titles. I. Of the Energy of the living Principle of the human Species in the Process of Evolution. II. On Predisposition in General. III. On the Blood, or subject Matter which the different Organs employ. IV. Of the Means

Means by which the Blood is meliorated in Quality from the Deterioration it sustains.—On Inspiration. V. Of the Means by which the Blood is distributed from the Lungs to the different Parts of the System. VI. On the Linnæan Classification of the animal Kingdom. VII. Of the Means by which the Blood is supplied in Point of Quantity from the Waste it sustains.—Of the different Species of Aliment that are employed by different animated Systems. VIII. The Agents by which the sensible Properties of solid Food are destroyed, with respect to Bulk or Quantity.—Of Manducation.—Of the Teeth.—Of Deglutition. IX. Of the Powers by which Food is assimilated, and Chylification perfected.—Of the Stomach. X. Of the Pancreas. XI. Of the Spleen. XII. On the Hepatic System. XIII. Of the Powers by which Chyle is absorbed and Blood supplied.—Of the lacteal Vessels. XIV. Of the Lymphatic Absorbent Vessels. XV. Of the Means by which the Blood is depurated from the Deterioration it has sustained, and how conveyed.—Of the Veins. XVI. Of the different Degrees of Power in the Vascular Organs of different Systems. XVII. Of the different Degrees of Power in the respiratory Organs of different animated Systems. XVIII. Of animal Heat.—Of the Excretions in General.—Of the urinary Excretion, or first Mode. XIX. On Perspiration, or the second Mode of Excretion. XX. Of Expiration, or the third and last Mode of Excretion. XXI. On Death. XXII. On Dissolution, caused by the Energy of Nature. XXIII. Of common Matter. XXIV. Of the Arrangement of different Species of common Matter.

The first thing which impressed us in the perusal of this work, was the freedom and confidence with which this author treats the various nature of such extensive and abstruse subjects, as have from time immemorial exercised the industry of many ingenious persons with very little success.

Mr. Saumarez asserts, and asserts it generally with truth, that one set of philosophers reasons absurdly, and that another is incoherent; that one writer is unintelligible, and another wants wisdom; but he does not seem to suspect that his own work is, upon the whole, neither more intelligible, nor less whimsical; neither more wise, nor better established upon the solid foundation of reason and experience. Yet it must be acknowledged, that the reader occasionally meets with some useful statements, and with some subjects represented in a new light.

Without attempting to discuss the particulars, or even to enumerate the many objectionable parts of this book, we shall only select such passages as are like to impress our readers, with what we think a just idea of the work.

In

In the first chapter, the writer distinguishes what he calls common matter from living matter, in the following manner :

"Common matter," says he, "is inherently passive, and, when left to itself, undergoes no change whatever ; it never acts, unless it is acted upon by some agent external to itself : whenever common matter is acted upon, and motion produced, the motion produced perpetually diminishes until it is lost : the matter gradually verges from the active state into which it had been excited, into a passive and quiescent one, in which condition it remains." Vol. i, p. 1.

"With living matter it is far otherwise :—the general qualities it contains are not only totally different from the qualities of common, but the changes it undergoes : the infinite multitude of animated Beings we behold in the universe, the various faculties and powers they possess, prove that each system, not only in its progress and its evolution, but in the various operations it performs, is governed by laws distinct and peculiar, dependent on the class to which it belongs ; and that the living matter of which it is composed is totally different from common matter in a common state.

"Every animated system in its most perfect condition is in perpetual action ; it possesses the power either to resist the mechanical or chemical operation of common matter upon it, or to convert that common matter into a living state : I say, it possesses the power to destroy the sensible properties of the substances exposed to its action, whilst it retains its own. A living system not only acts to resist when it is *acted upon*, but it acts to convert, and assimilate the objects upon which it operates, without being converted or even acted upon by them : it preserves its own integrity totally, and its various parts from decomposition and decay, whilst it acts upon things foreign to itself, and assimilates them to its own nature." P. 3.

His definition of life is as follows :

"Life may therefore be defined the principle (i. e. the efficient and primary cause) by the energy of which, various species of matter are converted to one kind under one system, so that the matter thus converted possesses the power of resisting the operation of external causes, and of preserving itself from decomposition and decay."

In p. 35, he says :

"Common matter therefore, in a common state, with relation to the principle of life, or the matter it has animated, appears to be nothing more than quantity alone, with the attributes of resistance, and of extension into length, breadth, and thickness—divisible in all its parts, and therefore totally imbecile and inert—possessing nothing else than universal privation—privation of every quality whatever—and therefore containing the universal capacity of being the universal recipient for all qualities which the energy of life may impart." P. 35.

In the 5th chapter, Mr. S. treats with contempt the modern idea of the oxygen principle contributing to animal irritability.

"It is," says he, "this particular air, this oxygenous matter, which vegetables in the day are constantly discharging from the whole external surface of their foliage as urinous and dead, and which these pure defecated philosophers dream, constitutes the principle of life in which all power essentially resides—the immediate and proximate cause of irritability in man!!!"

It is natural to imagine, that, according to Mr. S.'s opinion, the oxygen cannot be the cause of animal irritability, because it is discharged by plants as excrementitious; or that what is not good for plants cannot be good for animals; yet, in the second vol. p. 57, he observes, what indeed has been obviously and repeatedly mentioned, by a variety of writers, that

"The necessity that subsists of proper aptitude in the food which the stomach is to receive, is equally evident in the air or subject matter which the lungs especially demand: this necessity is proved by the different species of air which different systems require for their nourishment and support. The particular kinds of air which answer, in the most eminent degree, the purpose of vegetable evolution, as also of the insect tribe, are found particularly deleterious and destructive to human existence. The former vegetate and flourish by immersion in and absorption of those airs: in the latter, a cessation of all vital action ensues, it perishes and dies. Food, therefore, which constitutes aptitude for the one system, is evidently inaptitude in the other, arising from the different nature of the living principle in each. It is owing to the increased aptitude which oxygen possesses to be acted upon by the respiratory organs of the human species in general, that, although it is involved with double its quantity of azote, and a small proportion of carbonic acid gas, it becomes selected and absorbed: on the contrary, the other parts are separated, and by the collapse of the bronchia, are expelled as deleterious and foreign. So that the substances received as nutritious, are not only totally different in different systems; but the quality of the matter which is expelled as excrementitious and foreign."

The 8th chapter, "*On the Proceßion of living Beings*," is perhaps the most deserving of notice, as it contains many curious facts, principally respecting the growth and duration of life in various animals and plants.

The last six chapters of the first part are so little connected with the subject, and so strangely written in point of style and matter, that they hardly appear to be the production of a rational mind.

In the second volume, the author endeavours to describe the nature and the uses of the different organs and fluids of the animal body, which he does in a style rather less excentric, but by no means with that regularity and circumspection which such a subject might be thought to require.

Several

Several inaccuracies are to be found in both volumes of this work, especially when the author speaks of what is not immediately belonging to his profession. In one place, for instance, we find asserted, that, in general, 100 parts of atmospheric air contain only 18 parts of oxygenic air, 80 of azotic, and 2 of fixed air. In another place we find, that the atmospherical air consists "of two parts, viz. of oxygenic and nitrogenic gas." He also thinks that the matter of light, and the caloric, are one and the same thing, &c. &c.

ART. XI. *Reflections on the Surgeons' Bill, in Answer to Three Pamphlets, in Defence of that Bill. By John Ring, Member of the Corporation of Surgeons.* 8vo. 288 pp. 4s. 6d. Johnson. 1798.

THE three pamphlets here attempted to be answered have been noticed in our Reviews for January and April last, but not in the order in which they here appear. The author begins with that which is entitled, "A Dressing for Lord T——w." On this trifling performance he bestows about fifty pages; and, to do him justice, the observations he makes are as insignificant as the work he censures. Of argument he is very sparing; but deficiency in argument is abundantly compensated by conceit and quibble, vulgarity and abuse, which are plentifully scattered over the whole piece.

"This Dressing," he says, p. 15, "is of the *caustic* kind; but when applied to the Noble Lord for whom it is intended, it will not *sick*. The preparer of it, who expresses a sovereign contempt for pharmacy, that gem of which he knows not the value, is said already to repent of his temerity, in handling such acrimonious ingredients; but it is too late, when he has *burnt his fingers*."

Further on he says:

"The author of the Dressing is offended with Lord T——w, for descanting with some acrimony on the humble origin of the Corporation of Surgeons, and observes, that the Nile itself is collected from single rivulets. His own ill-begotten performance reminds us of the *beadless trunks* and unshapely monsters found on its banks. He affirms that a barber must be, in the nature of things, an unchangeable and unimprovable animal. If so, our author, who is a great *blockhead*, would have been *quite the barber*: he would have been a *peruke maker to a hair*. The sovereigns of the Barbers' Company would have heard of his tonsorial fame, and his name would have resounded from *pole to pole*."

As we have no doubt that the parts marked by Italics were intended by the author for wit, we have given them in the same character, although we were not always able to discover the joke.

The next object of his animadversion is the pamphlet, entitled "*Remarks on an Address to Surgeons throughout the British Dominions.*" As this is written with great temper and moderation, and contains some candid and judicious observations, we expected the writer might have met with milder treatment. But the zeal of the present author was kindled, and any attempt to justify the conduct of the Court of Assistants was sufficient to draw down his vengeance. Happily his darts are without points, and fall harmless to the ground; or, to use his own elegant metaphor, "his caustics will not stick." He is here more sparing in his attempts at wit, his stock seeming to have been exhausted by the violence of his efforts to overturn the first antagonist; for even ribaldry and nonsense will fail.

As a specimen of his observations on the Remarks, we shall give his exordium; and from the temper with which that is written, our readers may judge of the whole.

"Had the Dressing for Lord T——w," he says, p. 117, "met with the fate it deserved, and been burnt by the hands of the finisher of the law, we might have supposed this a phoenix rising from its ashes. It seems to be intended as a prop to support the dignity of surgery; but, alas! it is a broken reed! It seems intended as an additional feather in the cap of surgery; but, alas! it is plucked from a page!"

Of Mr. Chevalier the author speaks with peculiar acrimony. He is an apostate, it seems, from the body to which the author is united; having attended their first meetings, and subscribed, he says, towards paying the expence of opposing the bill he afterwards defended. Mr. Chevalier acknowledges, in the introduction to his observations,

"That he attended the meeting which was convened at the Crown and Anchor tavern, on the 8th of May last, to consider of the propriety of opposing the Surgeons' Bill. But being soon convinced that the objections to it were of no force, he thought it his duty, at the subsequent meeting, to state his opinion on the subject. Some gentlemen present," he says, "agreed with him, but a greater number did not. He was thence induced to enquire more fully into the subject, and the many harsh and unfair things which have since been said, and the gross mistakes which are gone abroad respecting it, determined him to lay the result of his enquiries before the public."

This seems to be a candid and rational statement of the business. But what will argument avail against prejudice, determined

determined to shut its eyes to every thing that opposes its ambition or passion? His change of sentiment is represented as the effect of venality and corruption.

"Mr. C." this author says, p. 155, "as well as others, had a *complaint* against the bill; but his *complaint* was of the ephemeral kind. It is thought by some, that as the *quaking fit* was so short and so violent, the disorder was an ague, and that it was cured by the usual specific; as they saw a little of the *jesuit's tincture* about his lips."

An insinuation so illiberal deserves no notice. The author is angry with Mr. C. for giving the history of the revival of surgery, and of the origin of the Company; yet it seemed necessary to trace the origin of the art, in order to show the progress it had made, and the propriety of granting the honour and protection which the Court of Assistants were soliciting.

"As a considerable part of Mr. Ch.'s pamphlet," the author says, p. 181, "is totally irrelevant to the point in question, we cannot read it without regretting, that any professional man should have wasted so much of his time. Besides other frivolous and insignificant enquiries which he has made, he informs us, that after long and tedious research, he has not been able to find that any surgeon was flatedly appointed to attend the king's person before the year 1360, when Richard de Wy was made surgeon to Edward the Third. How much better would Mr. Ch. have been employed, if he had been reading about the virtues of a linfeed poultice!"

This censure seems to come with peculiar impropriety from our author, who has larded his book with numerous quotations from classical and other writers, not always, it must be confessed, very happily introduced, but which prove that he does not confine his own attention to the *materia medica*. This, however, is harmless. Not so his allusions to, and quotations from, the sacred scriptures, which we cannot help thinking profaned by being mixed with his sarcastic and bitter remarks.

Having thus shown the general character of the book before us, we shall proceed to examine one or two of the most material of the author's objections to the proposed bill. One of the first we meet with, is the bye-law precluding persons practising pharmacy or midwifery from being elected on the Court of Assistants. In our account of Mr. Chevalier's book, we gave the reasons which induced us to think this a just and necessary regulation, and therefore we need not repeat them here. Another object of terror to this author is, the power entrusted to the Court of Assistants of electing members to fill up vacancies that happen by death or resignation in their own body.

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"The Court," he says, "with to retain this power, from an apprehension that if it were lodged in the whole body of the members, the Court in a little time would be filled with apothecaries;"

and this fear will not seem unreasonable, when it is considered there are five or six members who practise pharmacy with surgery, for one who confines himself to surgery alone. But the Court need be under no apprehension, our author thinks, of such an event, as the apothecary-surgeons would be jealous of aggrandizing one of their own rank. But take his own words.

"It is well known," he says, p. 223, "to the members of the Corporation, that mutual jealousies, and jarring interests, would commonly prevent the practitioners of pharmacy from trying to aggrandize each other. In addition to this argument, it must be observed," he proceeds, "that *gratitude for past*, and *hopes of future favours*, would influence all those, who have no expectations of rising to the same eminence, to vote for the practitioner who sends *them his* prescriptions."

But this argument shows the impropriety of vesting the power in the whole body, as it would occasion endless cabal and jangling; and the most forward, bold, and intriguing, and not the most intelligent, discreet, and prudent practitioners, would be the persons likely to be elected.

A considerable part of the remainder of the volume consists of a view, or examination, of the extent of the author's own surgical knowledge, compared with that of certain members of the Court of Assistants and other surgeons. The balance, as may be expected, is clearly in favour of the writer; who, in every instance, is stated to have shown a more profound knowledge of the nature of the diseases submitted to their care, than the surgeons with whom he was joined in consultation; and generally had the merit of completing the cures, after the aforesaid surgeons had made them desperate by their erroneous practice. As the author modestly declines giving either the names of the patients, or of the surgeons, whose ignorance he means to expose, we shall also decline giving our opinion on the subject; except so far as to observe, that we do not see how these facts, even if authenticated, tend to advance the argument of the writer, or to justify his opposition to the Surgeons' Bill, to which they do not seem to bear the smallest relation.

ART. XII. *Sermons on various Subjects; more particularly on Christian Faith and Hope, and the Consolations of Religion. By George Henry Glasse, M. A. (late Student of Christ Church, Oxford) Rector of Hanwell, Middlesex, and Chaplain to the Right Honourable the Earl of Radnor. 8vo. 439 pp. 7s. Cadell and Davies. 1798,*

THE efforts of various minds, conspiring to one great and useful end, must ever form a pleasing subject of contemplation. In this point of view we behold, with unabated satisfaction, the constant supply of pulpit-discourses which issues from the British press. It argues, in the first place, a very laudable care and diligence in those whose duty it is to deliver such discourses to their congregations; and it provides, in the second, for the extension of that good, whatever it may be, which has attended their original delivery. The evident advantage to the public is, that the variety of writers is thus proportioned more and more to the variety of readers; and every well-qualified teacher has a chance of finding some minds on which, from congenial qualities or feelings, his instructions will have a more peculiar influence. Some will attend to learning, some to argument, some to ingenuity of illustration, some to clearness of exposition. Zeal, energy, and eloquence, will prevail with many, and have a natural tendency to succeed with all; yet there are those who will be more usefully affected by plain and simple exhortations, by the apposite introduction of scriptural expressions, and by language that evinces the sincerity of the heart, rather than the power and activity of the mind. These, and many other peculiarities, with every possible combination of more or fewer of them, will all appear occasionally among a great variety of writers, and will all produce in circulation their specific good effects. Who then that is zealous for religion and good morals, will wish to see the number of such volumes abridged or restrained?—Frequently as they may appear, they will never want a welcome from the wise and good; who will rejoice that so many are employed to co-operate with their wishes for the public.

The Sermons of Mr. Glasse must ever rank among those which are most remarkable for purity of faith and zeal. The author is one of those who, from a sound judgment in matters of evidence, deducing a firm belief in the Holy Scriptures, is content to find there what the wisdom of God has actually written, not what the petulance of man may conceive more worthy to be written. His discourses are not, in general, argumentative, but admonitory; and so careful is he to adhere to the best authority,

thority, that they form almost a cento of scriptural phrases and expressions. We are far from censuring this method, which shows, perhaps above all others, the strong direction of the author's mind to religion, and the prevailing tenor of his studies, thereby conveying an impression of sincerity, very favourable to the task of exhortation. It may be said, however, to be carried too far, when it produces a monotony of style, and often rather repeats than illustrates the words of the sacred volume. From this censure we cannot wholly exempt the present author; though the fault, if such it can be called, is amply counterbalanced by various merits.

As our first specimen of these discourses, we shall select a passage which less perhaps than any other justifies the remark we have now made; but we choose it for its utility; and because the positions laid down in it, though by no means new, are such as seem not yet to be sufficiently known; because they are here clearly stated, and may serve as a general key to a great part of the history of the Old Testament. The subject is the justification of the divine judgments, in extending punishments beyond the person of the offender.

"I would therefore earnestly solicit your attention to the two following remarks, which stand supported by undeniable proof from holy scriptures, and which, when admitted, will obviate all the difficulties that, on first inspection, seem to overshadow the subject.

"The first is this, That these judgments, which are recorded as inflicted by God on the children, for the sake of their parents' sins, are constantly, and without any exception, judgments of a *temporal*, and not of a *spiritual* nature.

"Nothing therefore is by any means implied, which tends to overthrow the assertion of the prophet, "The *soul* that sinneth, it shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him." Still doth the word of God stand sure—as will be fully manifested in the great Day of retribution, when the secrets of all hearts shall be revealed, and every man shall receive a just recompence for that he hath done, whether it be good, or bad.

"The second observation I would make is, That even these temporal judgements, denounced against the children of disobedient parents, have very rarely been inflicted, where the parties have shewn any disposition to avert the impending sentence, and to seek the favour of that God, whom their fathers provoked by their abominations.

"So that the denunciation of punishment being that of punishment merely temporal, and even this for the most part remissible, (if the children have not walked in the way of their forefathers, but have done that which is right in the sight of the Lord), the mercy of our compassionate and tender Father appears in all its lustre, notwithstanding it hath been most unworthily and impiously questioned in the present
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sent instance, as in many others, when mortal man would be more just than God, when a human creature would be more pure than his Creator.

"To these two remarks allow me to add a third, of a still more extensive nature.—That all the forewarnings of vengeance in the sacred writings, against those who had actually offended, do necessarily imply, that the persons so threatened *continue* in their sin. The predicted evil is not carried into execution, if the wicked man turn away from the wickedness he hath committed, and do that which is lawful and right. Not that the decrees of God are thereby frustrated, or that the word which proceeded out of his lips is rendered of none effect; for the express object of the divine threatening was, that the sinner might fear, and amend. "It may be," saith the Lord to Jeremiah, "It may be," that the house of Judah will hear all the evil that I purpose to do unto them, that they may return every man from his evil way, that I may forgive their transgression and their sin." To this we may add the memorable expostulation in Ezekiel: "Have I any pleasure at all in the death of him that dieth, saith the Lord God: and not that he should return from his ways, and live? Cast away from you all your transgressions and make you a new heart, and a new spirit; for why will ye die, O house of Israel?"

"If there be any who *doubt* the assertion, that the punishments spoken of as inflicted on children for the sins of their parents are merely of a temporal nature, let me intreat them to weigh well in their minds that dreadful conclusion which results from the contrary opinion.—It is no other than this: "That a just, and a holy, and merciful God dooms an immortal soul to irreverible destruction, on account of offences in which that soul had no share whatever!" An inference of such a nature, as to make us tremble, while we speak or hear it—and which yet cannot be done away, unless the position we have laid down is admitted in its full force.

"But what it is blasphemy even to conceive with respect to the souls of those, who are threatened for the offences of their parents, we may very safely adopt as to their bodies, their lives, or fortunes. It may have very highly promoted the cause of truth and holiness, that some marked instances of the vengeance of God against sin should have been displayed even against the posterity of the sinner, that others, admonished by such examples, might, for their children's sake, if not for their own, take heed how they offended. Add to this, that the Almighty hath it in his power to make such ample recompence in heaven to those, who are tried in the furnace of adversity upon earth—the eternal weight of glory so overbalances the light afflictions which endure for a moment, that if, in these few and evil days, (which are but as a little moment when compared with the ages of eternity) the sinner's descendant should be visited by the divine correction, he will have no cause to murmur at the dispensations of the Almighty, if, after he hath been a little chastised, he be greatly rewarded. For who shall say, that these very afflictions, if they were properly received, were not of themselves the guides to happiness—especially where an erroneous education and evil example had probably hardened the feelings against the common means of grace and salvation?" P. 169.

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This author is one of those who wisely do not presume to decide upon points of difficult controversy; and where Revelation leaves a matter undecided, has the humility to acquiesce in that uncertainty which thus seems ordained for us.

"To what portion of their glorious reward the righteous are admitted immediately after their dissolution, and what part of it is reserved for the day of final recompence—these are questions on which it becomes us not to dwell with too minute investigation. Whither shall we go for information on this awful subject, when the Holy Spirit hath veiled it in mysterious silence? Let it suffice us, that God is our God for ever and ever—that he is not only our guide *unto* death, but *in* death, and *after* death—that he is the God of our fathers, the God of Abraham; of Isaac, and of Jacob, the God of the spirits of all flesh—that blessed are the dead, which die in the Lord—that the souls of the righteous, from the time that they leave their earthly tabernacles, are in the hands of God—that though in the sight of the unwise they may seem to die, and their departure may be taken for misery, yet they are in peace—that the great apostle testified his "vehement desire" to be absent from the body, *and to be present with the Lord*—and that Jesus Christ, the Author of life and mercy, when he was placed as a victim on the altar of his cross, spake thus to the dying penitent beside him: "THIS DAY shalt thou be with me in Paradise." For the rest, O Lord, we tarry thy leisure: our hearts are comforted, for we put our trust in thee. With thee do live the spirits of them that depart hence in the Lord. With thee the souls of the faithful, after they are delivered from the burthen of the flesh, are in joy and felicity. Thou wilt keep them safe that are committed to thy charge, till the number of thine elect being accomplished, they shall have their *perfect consummation* of bliss, both in body and soul, in thine eternal glory." P. 421.

The following conjectures on the future intercourse of the good are also modest, and in no small degree affecting.

"How are our hearts comforted, how are they elevated by the thought, that we, and all those who have the fondest place in our affections, shall, if we live in the faith of God, and depart in his fear, be most blessed to all eternity!—that we shall *together* be made partakers of the kingdom of our God, and the glory of his Christ, who hath opened the gates of Heaven to all believers! In what manner, and to what extent these hopes will be realized, He only knows, who hath decreed that the soul shall one day be reunited to the body, and shall be received into the mansions of immortality: but that they *will* be realized, who can doubt, who has ever felt the endearing ties which are formed by filial, parental, or conjugal love? Is it to be supposed, that the Almighty hath implanted in our souls these exquisite feelings to be so soon interrupted, so soon, as it were, annihilated?—feelings that, instead of the blessing, would be the torment of our lives, did the sad thought of a total separation from all that we delight in arise to embitter every enjoyment? But in the sure and certain hope of future restoration to the beloved friends who go before us, we resign
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them, though not without poignant sorrow, at least without despair. We consider them as gone on a journey, whither we ourselves shall ere long follow them—and though this temporary separation should be fatal to the survivor's earthly happiness, yet faith anticipates the blessed day, when we shall meet again, to be separated no more—when, in the presence of that God, with whom is the fulness of everlasting joy, love, and doubtless social love; shall reign, without alloy, and without interruption—when, in that state of bliss, which is purchased for us by the precious blood of Christ; and to which we shall be guided by the Holy Ghost, the *Comforter*, we shall be restored to the objects of our love, once more, and for ever." P. 430.

These passages display also the prevalent style of the discourses as we have characterized them above. The sermons are twenty in number, of which only the first has been separately printed. The subjects are ; 1. The Clerical Character. 2. The Creation. 3. The Unity of God. 4. The Transfiguration. 5. The Atonement. 6. The State of the Departed. 7. The Name of God glorified. 8. The Vanity of human Wishes. 9. The just Judgments of God. 10. The Close of the Year. 11. The Nature of Christian Faith. 12. The Object of Christian Faith. 13. The Triumphs of Christian Faith. 14. The Foundation of Christian Hope. 15. The Promise of Christian Hope. 16. The Christian's Warfare. 17. The Christian's Defence. 18. The Christian's Joy. 19. The Christian's Rest. 20. The Christian's Glory. We are rather surprised to see so unqualified an approbation of the late Mr. Hawtrey's interpretation, in p. 60; and we still doubt about some of the positions in Sermon XII; particularly we deny the argument in p. 235, l. 4. But in general we fully agree with the author.

ART. XIII. *A Report of the Two Cases of controverted Elections of the Borough of Southwark, in the County of Surrey; which were tried and determined by select Committees of the House of Commons, during the First Session of the Eighteenth Parliament of Great Britain, 37 George III. With Notes and Illustrations: to which are added, an Account of the Two subsequent Cases of the City of Canterbury. And an Appendix on the Right of the returning Officer to administer the Oath of Supremacy to Catholics. By Henry Clifford, of Lincoln's-Inn, Barrister at Law. 8vo. 6s. Debrett. 1797.*

THIS book contains a candid, and, to all appearances, an accurate account of the proceedings in the two Southwark cases. But it is spun out into very unnecessary length. The law

law of elections will not be much elucidated either by the declaration or the political remarks of the petitioner. It would have been better, therefore, to have consigned these flourishes to the care of our diurnal publications, and to have restricted the present work to a sober and concise account of the several arguments, the substance of the evidence, and the decisions of the committee. With this strong and necessary exception to the plan of his work, Mr. Clifford has discharged the duties of a reporter in a creditable manner; and we were pleased to observe, that the political partialities of the author have been confined to his dedication, notes, and appendix. These latter show some ingenuity, and are written with considerable spirit; but the quotations are neither useful nor curious, and the final conclusions of the author are often incorrect.

His reflections upon the case of *Ridler v. Moore and Francis*, notes, b. i, p. 371, so far as they respect the publican's right to recover the amount of his bill, for articles furnished to entertain voters during an election, appear to us not to be well-founded. Mr. Clifford's error seems to rest upon a misapplication of the principle, that if the object for which the contract is made be illegal, it is altogether void. The case in question is unimpeached by this maxim, because the publican has nothing to do with the application of those goods with which he supplied the candidate. He is not bound to know whether those persons whom he entertains are his agents, servants, retainers, or electors. It would introduce a new and dangerous principle into the law of contracts, if their validity was to depend upon the use to which the subject matter is applied by the purchaser. Even the cases of smuggling contracts do not carry the matter thus far.

Mr. C. is misled by this fallacy, when he urges the following case:

"But it will be difficult to account on any rational principle of law, how on the one hand a publican can recover a demand arising out of such a contract, made in violation of the statute, unless on the other it be admitted, that the candidate may also recover the damages he sustains, by the publican's neglecting to perform his part of it."

The answer is, that the case is not warranted by the facts. The publican enters into no such contract, and, of course, no such action could be maintained against him. Mr. C. takes it for granted, that he is the agent of the candidate; in which case his arguments might possibly apply: but nothing appears on the evidence, as it is stated by Mr. C. from whence such an inference can be deduced.

We are sorry to be obliged to differ further from Mr. C. when he insists (note c, p. 376) that *Benchers*, i. e. prisoners
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for debt, inhabiting within the rules, but without the walls of the King's Bench Prison, "have no right to vote for the election of a burgess to represent the borough of Southwark, though they are rated, and pay to the poor of St. George the Martyr."

Some of the reasons upon which he founds his opinion, are not merely unsatisfactory, but absolutely ludicrous. Thus he lays it down, p. 380, that, because the receipt of alms is a disqualification, where the right of voting is personal, these *Benchers* are disqualified, inasmuch as the justices of counties and towns corporate are required, by 43 Eliz. c. 2, to send competent sums of money for the relief of the poor prisoners of the King's Bench and Marshalsea, &c." Mr. C. triumphantly asks, "What is this but an annual receipt of alms, or parochial relief, from every parish in the kingdom?" A very little reflection would have convinced Mr. C. that the term *poor prisoners* is not used merely as expressive of compassion, but is applied exclusively to signify such prisoners as are unable to support themselves. This is not the situation of that description of prisoners whose franchise is called in question, who, according to the very terms of his proposition, contribute to the relief of others, instead of receiving any portion of the funds allotted to maintain the poor. Neither are M. C.'s arguments drawn from so recent a statute as 23 Geo. iii, c. 23, by any means satisfactory. The interference of the legislature to deprive these persons of some parochial privileges, is an argument against the conclusion which he labours to establish. It proves that, previous to this act, these *Benchers* were as much parishioners in every respect as any other inhabitant of the parish of St. George the Martyr; and it would be going a great way to contend, that a statute made solely for the relief of the parish, should operate collaterally to deprive these poor persons of any other rights than such as it specifically abrogates. We should be glad also to learn from what authority Mr. C. has taken his description and definition of an inhabitant (p. 382). According to him, "an inhabitant is one that hath lands or tenements in his own possession and manurance in the county, &c. and is thereby liable to public charges." Lord Coke, and after him Lord Kenyon, have very properly said, that persons of this description are to be considered as comprised under the words "inhabitants of a parish," when used in an act of parliament, although their place of residence is elsewhere situated. But no law book which we have ever seen has confined the word exclusively to signify such occupiers of property. Residence as an inmate or servant will constitute an inhabitant as well as keeping an house, or occupying

pying a far). According to the common law, a commorance of three days, in any capacity, is sufficient to bring an individual under the description. By the statute of Char. ii, a bare residence in any parish for forty successive days, would confer a settlement. The very terms used by Mr. C. of "inhabitants *paying scot and lot*," show that his definition is erroneous. The superadded words of qualification are superfluous and unmeaning, unless a species of inhabitants may exist, who are not liable to public charges.

In the Appendix to this book, Mr. C. puts his argument with ingenuity, where he denies the power of the returning officer to administer the oath of supremacy to Catholics. But, notwithstanding the reasons he has assigned, it appears to us that 34 Geo. iii, c. 73, does not interfere with the right which that officer had previously possessed. The sole object of that statute was to prevent vexatious procrastinations of the poll, and to enable all the electors to vote within the time limited by law for making the return. As the general object of all wanton exactions of the oath is to harass some other candidate, it has, not improperly, given him the power of preventing an obstinate rival from converting a law designed for the safety of the state, into an instrument of ruinous and unconstitutional delay. But where the candidates have no reason to apprehend any such design, and they are satisfied that the elector's choice can be manifested in due time, the law respecting the returning officer's right to administer the oath of supremacy, remains untouched. That such is the true construction of the statute, we are well assured; and we never can subscribe to the unbecoming conjecture, that the promoters of this bill thereby intended to confer on the Roman Catholics, "by a side wind, a privilege which they feared Parliament would not grant, if it had been openly demanded." The supposition would subject those who introduced the bill to a well-founded charge of shameless hypocrisy, and the legislature at large to the imputation of supine indolence, or doltish stupidity.

While we are on the subject of this Appendix, we cannot help remarking how much it is to be wished, that Mr. C. had foreborne his comparison between the mad decrees, blasphemously levelled against all religion in France, and fulfilled to the very letter of the most sanguinary exposition under the domination of Robespierre, and our laws against Nonconformists, obsolete as they have been, to all intents, ever since the followers of popery have ceased to be dangerous to the civil tranquillity of the kingdom. We shall pass over these passages with this single remark, that they are unfounded and over-zealous; injurious to the reputation of the country, and

uncalled for by the author's subject. If we were to enter more deeply into the question, we should feel compelled by impartial justice to reprobate the assertion, in terms which we should most reluctantly apply to a respectable member of a most respectable profession.

ART. XIV. *Alumni Etonenses; or, a Catalogue of the Provosts, and Fellows of Eton College, and King's College, Cambridge; from the Foundation in 1443, to the Year 1797; with an Account of their Lives and Preferments, collected from Original MSS. and authentic Biographical Works.* By Thomas Harwood. 4to. 363 pp. 11. 1s. Birmingham, printed by T. Pearson, for Messrs. Cadell and Davies, London; J. Deighton, Cambridge; and M. Pote, Eton. 1797.

THIS book, which is addressed to the Provosts, and Fellows of both those colleges, cannot but be a grateful present; *Se quoque principibus permixtum agnovit Archivis*, must strike on the feelings of every classical son of those royal foundations. The mere names and dates contained in a work like this, lead to much interesting recollection; but the short biographical notices added to many of the names, must render it highly acceptable to those, for whose use it was, no doubt, principally intended. The first 30 pages are filled with the catalogue of the Provosts of Eton, from the first, to Dr. Davies, who at present fills that respectable station. Every one of these has more or less of a biographical sketch annexed to his name, and some of these accounts are very full. After these follow the Provosts of King's College, to p. 50. Then the Fellows of Eton, to p. 99. Then comes the catalogue of what the editor calls *Alumni Etonenses*, which fills up the remainder of the volume, and makes the principal part of it. These are the names of those, who have gone off from Eton to King's College, as vacancies happened; many of which names are still to be seen engraved upon the oak pannels and posts in the lower school, and in the passage between that and the lower chamber.

To these catalogues are prefixed about eight pages, upon the charters, and first foundation of these Colleges; and, at the end, the author has subjoined (we suppose, as the *fructus et finis laborum*) a list of the livings in the gift of the two Colleges.

This is not the first time that a list of the *Alumni Etonenses* has been printed. Mr. Pote, the bookseller at Eton, published
one

are some years ago ; but it was a mere list of names. So the list of the Westminster Scholars, published by Mr. Walsli, has only short notes of preferments, &c. annexed to some of the names, in the margin. Mr. Harwood is the first, who has rendered such a registry more informing and interesting, by adding a quantity of materials, that cannot fail to be useful in the prosecution of our national biography ; as well as pleasing to the members and friends of these literary establishments. This part of the work seems to have been pursued with great industry, and, in general, appears to be executed with reasonable accuracy. The best biographical works are seldom proof against the criticism of those, who are intimately acquainted with the persons and circumstances in question ; no industry can countervail the advantages possessed by relations and intimate acquaintance. With such allowances, this may be pronounced a work of information, containing a great deal not elsewhere to be found in print.

ART. XV. *The History of England, from the earliest Dawn of Record to the Peace of 1783.* By Charles Coote, LL. D. of Pembroke College, Oxford; Author of the *Elements of English Grammar*. Vol. VIII. 8vo. 452 pp. 6s. 6d. Longman. 1797.

AS the preceding volumes of Dr. Coote's history have not come regularly before us, we cannot enter into so full an investigation of his work as its merits would in all probability demand. To judge of the whole from the specimen before us, it is a creditable and pleasing performance. The manner is methodical and connected ; the style perspicuous and natural ; and a spirit of candour, such as becomes the historian, seems to guide the author in the judgment which he pronounces upon characters and facts.

The present volume contains the history of the latter part of Queen Anne's reign, that of George I, and a considerable portion of George II; a period of 35 years. That our readers may form some opinion of Dr. Coote's talents as a writer of history, we shall lay before them his summary view of the most distinguished persons, from the revolution to the demise of Anne.

As this section immediately follows the narrative of the affairs of the church, it may properly begin with the mention of the most eminent divines.

divines. The episcopal stations were, in general, well filled, both under William and his successor. The merits both of Tillotson and Tenison we have already panegyriced. Among the most able and respectable of those who presided over the church during their primacy, we may reckon Lloyd (one of the seven prelates who were sent to the Tower by James II.), Patrick, Cumberland, and Burnet. The two first excelled in theological erudition; while the two others had more general knowledge. The history of the Reformation, written by Burnet, is a valuable work; but that of his own time is less estimable, being incorrect in its statements, and defective in point of composition. Archbishop Sharp was also one of the ornaments of the church at this period; nor should the bishops Beveridge and Bull pass unnoticed, as they were in high esteem for their learning and worth. Of the ecclesiastics who filled subordinate stations, the most distinguished were these: Clarke and Bentley, who shone as theologians and philologists; Sherlock, who was an acute controversial writer; and South, who mingled the effusions of pleasantry with the display of literature.

"The period of which we are treating, was ennobled by the extraordinary genius and sagacity of sir Isaac Newton. He was born of a good family in Lincolnshire; studied at the free-school of Grantham, and at Trinity college, Cambridge; succeeded Barrow as professor of mathematics in that university; was chosen member of the convention which pronounced the throne vacant; was appointed by king William to the mastership of the mint; and received from queen Anne the empty honor of knighthood. His discoveries and improvements in the knowledge of nature will immortalise his name, as the greatest philosopher that this, or perhaps any other country, ever produced. Whiston, the learned Arian, was selected by sir Isaac for his deputy in the functions of professor; and, on his resignation, was chosen his successor. Saunderson, though totally blind, was advanced to this station on the deprivation of the heretical Whiston; and he was a happy expounder of the Newtonian system. Halley, Flamsteed, and Cotes, the contemporaries of Newton, rose to considerable eminence, as astronomers and mathematicians. The earl of Pembroke, one of the negotiators at Ryfwick, was also profoundly skilled in mathematics.

"Locke acquired high fame by his logical, ethical, metaphysical, and political knowledge. He received his education at Westminster and at Oxford, and acted for some time as a physician; but, turning his attention to national affairs, he obtained several posts by the patronage of the first earl of Shaftesbury, though his connexion with that intriguing peer subjected him to some danger. After the Revolution, he became commissioner of appeals, as well as of trade and plantations. His judicious theory of the human understanding, the liberality of his opinions in religion and politics, his system of education, and, indeed, his whole literary and moral character, entitle his memory to great respect. The earl of Shaftesbury, grandson of Locke's patron, was a man of learning and abilities: but his notions are too latitudinarian to please the sincere believers of Christianity; and his view of human nature is considered as too favorable.

"Among the physicians of these two reigns, who enjoyed the greatest reputation, we may number Sloane the naturalist, Radcliffe, Freind,

Freind, Garth, Hannes, and Blackmore. Radcliffe had less learning, but more sagacity, than any of his medical brethren; and was remarkably successful in his practice. Freind was an excellent scholar; Garth was an ingenious poet; and Blackmore has been rescued, by a celebrated modern critic, from that contempt in which Dryden and Pope held his poetical efforts.

"The principal luminaries of the bench and the bar were, sir John Holt, sir Robert Atkins, the lords Somers, Cowper, and Harcourt, sir Joseph Jekyll, sir Peter King, and sir Thomas Parker. The judicial ability of Holt was accompanied with the most incorrupt integrity: Somers added a refined taste in literature to the splendor of oratorical talents: Cowper was an acute reasoner in his harangues; and King, besides his professional attainments, had acquired a considerable share of theological learning.

"In poetry, and other branches of the *belles lettres*, many ingenious and able writers appeared at this time. Pope was rapidly succeeding to the fame of Dryden; but, as he was yet in his youthful career, he will be mentioned on a future occasion. The English poetry of Addison is not of equal merit with his prose; but his Latin poems are worthy of high commendation. His periodical essays are fraught with lessons of pure morality, with propriety of remark, elegant simplicity of diction, and easy pleasantry. His criticisms are just and candid; and his political principles are liberal and philanthropic. Swift possessed a fertile imagination, and a rich vein of humor and satire; and, in addition to his merit in poetry and romance, he displayed no small ability as a political author. Prior may be considered as a pleasing rather than a great poet. Congreve was less excellent, in that capacity, than as a comic writer. Rowe was an elegant tragedian; Southern, a pathetic dramatist. Farquhar and Mrs. Centlivre were admired for the attractive pleasantry and intrigue of their comedies. The inferiority of Steele, as an essayist, to his associate Addison, must be acknowledged by every critical reader; but his comedies may be deemed superior to the only piece of that kind which his friend composed.

"The arts of painting and sculpture had, hitherto, been chiefly exercised in England by foreigners; but some native painters of merit now appeared, of whom Thornhill was the principal. In the department of architecture, besides sir Christopher Wren, whose great abilities did honor to his country, few professors attained celebrity. Vanburgh was patronized by the court; but his buildings have been less admired than his comedies. Gibbs began to flourish as an architect near the close of Anne's reign; and some of the new churches, which that princess ordered to be erected, were planned by him. With regard to musical composition, Purcell was the most eminent of native masters; but British merit was not then sufficiently encouraged by the *amateurs* of this elegant science." P. 177.

From this specimen it will appear, that the author is not deficient in that discriminating talent which gives lustre to historical narration; and which renders it subservient to the instruction of mankind.

BRITISH CATALOGUE.

POETRY.

ART. 16. *Epistle in Rhyme, to M. G. Lewis, Esq. M. P. Author of the Monk, Castle Spectre, &c. With other Verses, by the same Hand.* Crown 8vo. 24 pp. Lann, 332, Oxford Street. 1798.

Though we differ widely from the author of these verses, concerning the merits of the writings for the sake of which he celebrates Mr. L. we cannot but most cordially admire what he has here produced, The melody and polish of his lines, united with energy and spirit; the purity and judicious choice of his language, the occasional excursions of his fancy, all evince, as much as in so small a compass can be shown, the talents of a real poet. Of the compositions which he celebrates our opinion is not altered, even by his apologies and commendations. The *Monk*, though not without marks of genius, is in many parts pernicious, and in all the latter volume, as full of bad taste as of pictures that display no amiable disposition in the designer. Of the *Castle Spectre*, we agree in the estimate said to be made by an eminent wit; who, being urged by the author to lay a wager—any wager, even the whole profits of the piece, replied, “no; that would be enormous; I will lay any thing trifling; the *real value*, if you please.” Notwithstanding this very great difference in a matter of taste, we sincerely and earnestly commend the poetical powers of the Epistle-writer. The following simile on the destruction of the Gallic Monarchy is in the highest strain of illustrative imagery.

So he that roves, as eastern story tells,
Some wild Savanna, where enchantment dwells,
Sees unawares, amid the gloom of night,
By Genii rais'd, the Palace of Delight:
Fantastic forms the rich pavilion throng,
Weave the gay dance, or raise the choral song;
Unnumber'd lights from crystal branches blaze,
Unnumber'd mirrors multiply the rays;
The liquid ruby bostoms in many a bowl,
In many an eye voluptuous transports roll;
Till some rash hand, in evil hour, profanes
The talisman, where potent magic reigns,
At once the revels cease—the tapers die—
With dismal shrieks the black-ey'd beauties fly!
Deep thunder rolls—an earthquake rocks the ground—
The gorgeous fabric crumbles all around!
Its place nor arch nor broken columns tell,
But where the Houries sang, byzans yell.

Such

Such a writer, we can fully acquit of vanity, when he says.

I think, perhaps, I know what verse should be.

He certainly does know, and proves his knowledge in the most direct manner. The other little poems have merit in their respective styles. The short Ode, written opposite to the title-page of the "*Pleasures of Memory*," is fine, but very gloomy. From this, as well as from other little traits scattered in these few pages, we collect that the writer has suffered misfortunes; and we fear also that his opinions do not direct him to the best sources of consolation.

ART. 17. *Defence of the Stage. A Speech, in Verse, delivered in a public Assembly, upon the following Question: "Do public and private Theatrical Representations tend to vitiate or improve the Morals of Mankind?"* 8vo. 14 pp. 6d. Jordan. 1798.

Friendly, as we are, to the legitimate purposes of the stage, we took up with pleasure an argument in defence of it. The author's *definition of the stage* is introduced by a satire on the opera.

"I call not that the stage, where *dancers* move,
In vests transparent, to soft strains of love:
What, tho' her form half naked shews
To blushing crouds herself unblushing—ROSS;
And PARISOR, in attitudes that speak,
Dyes with a deeper tint fair Virtue's cheek.
But this is not the stage."——

It is granted, p. 7, (in lines rather prosaic) that some plays have a bad tendency; but not such as are written in "these enlighten'd days." That we have less ribaldry, than in the days of Charles the Second, is true; and the cause may be, that our taste is more refined; but as long as obscene allusion, and double entendre (the seasonings of many modern comedies) are resorted to, the stage will not be any great "improver of the morals of mankind."

"Now on the stage, the fop—the knave—the fool,
All feel the lash of manly ridicule—
Protected Sense loud approbation greets,
And Folly from the general laugh retreats:—
This only is the Drama's proper use,
All else is not the stage—but in abuse." P. 8.

It appears then, that the author defends the stage, not *as it is*, but as *it ought to be*. Here we cordially join hands with him; and our general approbation, or censure, of stage-productions, is dispensed, as they conform to, or oppose this just defence of them.

Specimens of moral instruction are then brought from some of our most popular tragedies and comedies; and the blame of the corruption of the age, is laid chiefly on the faults of female education. Education, however, as far as it goes, is little concerned in the matter; but the manners which are permitted as soon as education has ceased,

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both prove and increase the corruption of the age. The verses are in general prosaic, and, for a speech, prose would certainly have been preferable.

ART. 18. *The Egotist, or Sacred Scroll. A familiar Dialogue, between the Author of the Pursuits of Literature and Otharvus.* 8vo. 43 pp. 1s. 6d. Murray and Co. 1798.

Mr. Invisible, as the present writer styles the author of the Pursuits of Literature, has here a very desirable antagonist; one who vents a great deal of anger, without any wit to give it force or aim. We could wish for nothing better, in literary warfare, than to see the cause of order and good principles supported by such writers as that, and assailed by such as this. We have had occasion before to observe, that Indignation does not make such good verses as the did in Juvenal's time; we are now inclined to think that it is virtuous Indignation alone that makes good verses. Vicious Rage is a mere postaster. Nothing can be more flat than the raillery here attempted, both in verse and prose. The only passage that has any poetical merit or wit, is the simile of the rose in page 25.

ART. 19. *Sentimental Poems, on the most remarkable and interesting Events of the French Revolution. Dedicated to his Serene Highness the Prince of Condé, by a foreign Officer, and translated by an English Nobleman. Second Edition.* 8vo. No Bookseller's Name. 1798.

This poem was probably published for the benefit of some unfortunate emigrant; without entering, therefore, into a critical analysis of its merits, we satisfy ourselves with wishing success to the objects of the author.

ART. 20. *Windermere, a Poem. By Joseph Badworth, Esq. Author of a Fortnight's Ramble to the Lakes.* 8vo. 1s. Cadell and Davies. 1798.

We have frequently been entertained by the easy and good-humoured pen of this writer. The present poem contains some spirited lines, on a subject which may well be supposed to awaken all the ardour and enthusiasm of a writer, who admires the bold and striking scenes of Nature.

ART. 21. *Elegies, and other small Poems. By Matilda Betham.* 12mo. 3s. 6d. Longman. 1798.

We are not able to speak so favourably as we could wish of these poems, and wish that the author had been satisfied with circulating a few copies among her private friends; to whom, from local circumstances, as well as from the obvious sensibility of the writer's mind, they would undoubtedly have been very acceptable.

DRAMATIC.

DRAMATIC.

ART. 22. *Knave or not? A Comedy, in Five Acts, as performed at the Theatre Royal, Drury-Lane. By Thomas Holcroft. 8vo. 2s. Robinsons. 1798.*

This author complains of the unrelenting opposition which his productions have experienced for several years; and is willing to insinuate, that the failure of his pieces has been owing to political prejudices. He must have felt undoubtedly, that, in order to be heard with *indulgence*, it is necessary for an author to enjoy the favourable opinions of his audience; and he may have had perhaps a few lessons to inform him, that where the public is offended with the man, they will sometimes take revenge on his productions. But we conceive, that there is a supposable degree of merit which would vanquish such obstacles; and that degree we have not seen in such of his dramatic works as have fallen under our inspection. We cannot but think, that some comedies which we could have mentioned, must have succeeded, though the author had been known to be a modern *philosophist*. Such is not the force of the comedy of “*Knave or not?*”—There is little in it that can be called a plot; and what there does exist, is at once confused and improbable. The character of Susan is too coarsely rustic for her supposed origin and qualities; Sir Guy Taunton is a *Matt. Bramble*, drawn with much less delicacy and propriety than in several other places. Sir Job Ferment is no very bad picture, of what has so often been painted well, a hen-pecked husband; and the foolish fondness of his lady for her spoiled son is represented with some effect. Monroe, the principal character, is surely a good deal of a knave, yet with little contrivance or effect. The rest are of little consequence. Some passages indicate general ill-humour and discontent in the writer, and are not perfectly just. Yet these would hardly have condemned it, had not the probable design of their introduction been taken into the account. The comedy may surely die without much complaint or regret on the part of the Muses.

NOVELS.

ART. 23. *Santa-Maria; or, the Mysterious Pregnancy. In Three Volumes. By J. Fox. 12mo. 10s. 6d. Kearsley. 1797.*

Tales of wonder involving the intrigues of nobles, the management of friars, and the sieges of castles, &c. are now the fashionable food of the day; and the rapid novel seems in danger of being frightened out of existence by the terrible romance. As far as events of this nature are concerned, *Santa-Maria* is not without its merit; though we question if our lovers of romance will find a sufficient proportion of the horrible blended with the circumstances of the narration. Much cannot be said in favour either of the sentiments or the style:

—nor have the characters those bold and original strokes which intitle the author to any unusual degree of praise. The circumstance on which the plot is founded is obviously and culpably indelicate, and the development of it, in the letter of the monk Conrad, violates nature equally in the extravagant atrocities it confesses, and in the absurd bombast of the expressions. If the wonder-working brains of novelists cannot produce more probable or agreeable fictions, we would advise them to descend for ever to the safer regions of fact.

ART. 24. *Keeper's Travels in Search of his Master.* 12mo. 1s. 6d. Newbery. 1798.

A most agreeable, and indeed most useful addition to Mr. Newbery's library for children;—the moral is good, the style easy, and the tale sufficiently interesting.

ART. 25. *Obedience rewarded, and Prejudice conquered; in the History of Mortimer Lascelles; written for the Amusement and Instruction of young People.* By Mrs. Pilkington. 8vo. 2s. 6d. Vernor and Hood. 1797.

A book written with the same object with the preceding article, and certainly entitled to similar commendation.

ART. 26. *Anecdotes of Two well-known Families, prepared for the Press by Mrs. Parsons. Three Vols.* 8vo. 10s. 6d. Longman. 1798.

However desirous the parties really concerned in these volumes may be, to lay the anecdotes of their ancestors before the world; we much doubt whether the public will be amused or instructed in the perusal of them: the incidents are by no means well connected; the language by no means elegant; and although Mrs. Parsons "may hold it a duty to her friends and the public, to lay the bantling at the feet of its own parent," yet the fair novelist must be well aware, that she is undoubtedly answerable for the dress with which she has ornamented it for public inspection.

ART. 27. *Instructional Rambles.* By Elizabeth Helme. Two Volumes. Small 8vo. 5s. Longman. 1798.

At present, when nothing but a novel is thought capable of amusing the minds of young people of either sex, and when it is considered what false sensibility reading of that stamp generally implants in the heart, it certainly must, or, at least, ought to be, the earnest wish of every one, that something equally amusing, but more beneficial, might be put into their hands, during the hours of recreation: a task of this kind Mrs. Helme has, with the best intentions, undertaken; and we can, with satisfaction, recommend it as a work of great simplicity, morality, and entertainment.

- ART. 28. *Edmond of the Forest; an Historical Novel, in Four Volumes. By the Author of Cicely, or the Rose of Raby. Four Volumes. 8vo. 14s. Lanc. 1797.*

There is in these volumes what will make them acceptable to various readers; a great deal of imagination. They excel also in the descriptive parts; and the author has altogether made an agreeable use of that part of British history, which relates to the sanguinary contests between the two Roses.

- ART. 29. *The Church of St. Siffred. In Four Volumes. 8vo. 14s. Robinsons. 1797.*

The author has brought together a most singular collection of names; Lady Caerleon, Sir Francis l'Esterling, Carlville, Fitz-Piers, Lady Treastle, Sir Dennis Castlebar, &c. &c. &c. These several individuals, with a great many more, having been involved in the customary entanglements with one another; a happy marriage finally takes place between Conway and Ethelreda, the hero and heroine of the Drama.

LAW.

- ART. 30. *A Collection of Decrees, by the Court of Exchequer, in Fide Cases, from the Usurpation to the present Time. Carefully extracted from the Books of Decrees and Orders of the Court of Exchequer (by the Permission of the Court) and arranged in chronological Order, with Tables of the Names of the Cases and the Contents. By Hutton Wood, One of the Six Clerks of the Court of Exchequer. Royal 8vo. Volume First. 13s. 6d. to be followed by Three more, at the same Price. Printed for the Author; and G. G. and J. Robinson. 1798.*

In a short preface to the first volume, Mr. Wood gives the following account of his plan and his labours.

"The manuscript from which it (i. e. the work) is formed, was the laborious production of more than seven years, and has been honoured not only by the favourable attention of the present Lord Chief Baron and the rest of the Barons of the Court of Exchequer, but by the approbation of many respectable and distinguished characters at the bar.

"The several cases will contain the substance of the plaintiff's bill and the defendant's answer, together with the material allegations of those subsequent pleadings, which the respective parties thought it necessary to exhibit to the court. To which will be added, the judgment of the court, and the reasons occasionally given for such judgment, as pronounced by the Barons on the whole case thus brought before them, and entered in the book of decrees and orders by the officers belonging to the court."

Of this useful work, no more than the first volume has been hitherto published. It carries the series of decisions from the second of

Charles

Charles II, to the conclusion of Queen Anne's reign. The several cases, so far as we have considered them, appear to be clearly set forth, and faithfully abridged; and we make no doubt, that such authentic statements of the various cases upon the subject of tithes will be highly serviceable both to clergymen and lawyers.

DIVINITY.

ART. 31. *A Sermon, preached at the Abbey Church of St. Peter's Westminster, before the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, on Wednesday, March 7, 1798; being the Day appointed for a General Fast. By Follinet, Lord Bishop of Bristol.* 4to. 22 pp. 1s. Faulder. 1798.

The connection of religion with the prosperity of human society, is the principal subject of this discourse; the sagacious and just discussion of which is concluded by the following very pertinent apostrophe. "O Religion! Religion! thou purest emanation of the divine spirit! may no open violence, no secret conspiracies, drive thee from this land, so long powerful under thy protection, so blessed by thy grace, so happy through thy benignant influence!" The Bishop employs the remainder of his discourse in touching a few of the causes which tend to corrupt us in religion and in morals. The chief of these is this, which perhaps has not been before so distinctly pointed out: "The sterility of British virtue is no more. It is softened down into I know not what of pliancy of mind, and smoothness of artificial manners." A hint of this sort may lead the moral and religious enquirer into many useful enquiries; and some other topics, little less productive, are suggested in the close of the sermon.

ART. 32. *A Sermon on Suicide, preached at St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, at the Anniversary of the Royal Humane Society, on Sunday, the 26th Day of March, 1797. By G. Gregory, D. D. Author of Essays: Historical and Moral, the Economy of Nature, &c. With an Appendix, containing a brief Account of some of the most remarkable Cases of Suicide which have fallen under the Cognizance of the Society, &c. Second Edition.* 8vo. 48 pp. 1s. Dilly, Rivingtons, &c.

It is a very remarkable fact, and amply justifies the choice of the preacher in discoursing upon suicide, "that not fewer than five hundred cases" of that nature have fallen under the cognizance of the Humane Society since its institution; "in about three hundred and fifty of which, its interposition has been providential enough to restore the despairing culprit to himself, to his friends, and to society; and to rescue the soul of the sinner from the overwhelming pressure of despondency, and perhaps from the danger of everlasting condemnation." It is well worthy of remark also, that no person of the number so recovered, ever attempted suicide a second time: "a very forcible lesson to others," says the preacher most properly, "not to attempt it a first."—Dr. Gregory in this discourse first explains the heinous nature of the crime, and then assigns reasons for its prevalence. These are,

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1. The decay of religious principle. 2. The faults of education. 3. Gaming. 4. Commercial speculation, another species of the former vice. The discourse is sound and useful. May it go hand in hand with Mr. C. Moore's truly valuable compilation on that subject*, to repress, if possible, so disgraceful and horrible a crime.

ART. 33. *National Liberality, and national Reform recommended. A Sermon, preached in the Parish Church of St. George, Bloomsbury, on Sunday, February 4, 1798. By Samuel Glaspe, D. D. F. R. S. Chaplain in Ordinary to his Majesty. Published by Request. 8vo. 16 pp. 6d. Rivingtons and Cadell. The Profits (if any) to be applied to the Voluntary Contributions.*

"To render unto Cæsar the things which are Cæsar's, and unto God the things that are God's," is the sacred precept enforced by Dr. Glaspe: who distinctly views each part of the command in its reference to the situation of our country. Among the many edifying discourses on these topics, which the present exigencies have produced, this deserves to be recorded. We are happy to learn that 101. have been produced to the contributions, by the sale of this discourse.

ART. 34. *Observations on the Increase of Infidelity. By Joseph Priestley, LL. D. F. R. S. &c. &c. 8vo. 101 pp. 2s. 6d. Johnson. 1796.*

In this treatise (which from accidental causes has been long unnoticed) the usual ease and familiar discussion of this well-known writer is employed, upon a subject of great interest to the christian world. Notwithstanding the wide difference of opinion which subsists between Dr. Priestley and ourselves, we can yet admire his general arguments on the evidence of Christianity. Without descending into any systematic and orderly train of reasoning, he attempts to account for the defect of evidence to the mind of the infidel, from the uncandid state in which it finds him. What religion requires in the way of morality, is considered as another obstacle to its reception. The natural consequences of perusing the scriptures fairly, are also insisted upon; and a variety of sound and pertinent observations are made upon the usual objections, and the false insinuations of infidelity. The following extract affords so true and lively a representation of the case between the christian and his adversary, that we cannot refuse ourselves the pleasure of introducing it to our readers.

"To a person of a thoughtful and speculative turn of mind, capable of enlarged and extensive views of things, the scriptures present such an idea of the conduct of Providence, as he cannot abandon without peculiar regret. To an unbeliever in christianity and a future state, the ways of God, if he believe in any God at all, must appear exceedingly dark. He neither knows how things came into being, nor to what they tend; and his own personal interest and importance in the great scheme is as nothing. But revelation opens a

* In two vols. 4to. published 1790.

great, a glorious, and most animating prospect, and one in which every individual has the greatest personal interest. We are there informed concerning the origin of the human race, of their final destination, and of many particulars of the vast plan of Providence, including the divine missions of Moses, and of Christ, the great object of which was to form men to virtue here, and to happiness hereafter.

"We also learn in the scriptures, that all the evils of life, the contemplation of which cannot but perplex and distress the serious unbeliever, are only a part of that discipline which is necessary to the great end above mentioned. We therefore see the hand, the benevolent hand, of God, in every thing; and, though in a state of trouble and persecution, can *go on our way rejoicing*. In the history of revelation, we see the attention which God has given to men, in affording them light by degrees, and as they were able to bear it; instructing them more or less from the beginning of the world, giving them more distinct and important lessons by Moses and the prophets, and completing the whole scheme by Christ and the apostles.

"By the light of revelation we have the pleasing prospect of the gradual improvement of the whole human race, in their progress from darkness to light, from ignorance to knowledge, and from a state of barbarity and perpetual hostility, to a state of universal peace, virtue, and happiness, in which we are assured that this world is to terminate.

"Now, what has an unbeliever to contemplate in comparison with these, and other great views which revelation holds out to us, the contemplation of which tends to elevate and ennoble the mind, so as to make a man a superior kind of being to a person who has no knowledge or belief of them? I cannot help concluding, therefore, that a man who voluntarily shuts his eyes to this prospect, must have a strong bias upon his mind, and of a very unworthy kind; and if he does it involuntarily, and with regret, he will not do it without great hesitation, and the most sensible concern.

"Let the unbeliever then be ingenuous, and say, whether he really *feels* this concern, or not. If he be insensible to the great views I have mentioned, I shall conclude that his mind is in a low and degraded state; and that, whatever else he may know, he is destitute of the very elements of a right judgment *in this case*, and must be left to his own delusions." P. 51.

We think it necessary to remark, in addition to what has been stated, that the doctrines of the *Trinity*, *Atonement*, &c. are treated, when mentioned, with the usual disrespect which they meet with from this writer. We are, however, happy to say, that such objectionable passages are by no means numerous; and that the pamphlet is, in other respects, intitled to the good opinion of the public.

- ART. 35. *An Attempt to recover the original Reading of 1 Samuel, Chapter xiii. Verse 1. To which is added, an Enquiry into the Duration of Solomon's Reign; interspersed with Notes on various Passages of Scripture. By John Moore, LL.B. Minor Canon of St. Paul's Cathedral, London. 8vo. 84 pp. 2s. Rivingtons. 1797.*

The verse here discussed stands thus in our public translation of the Bible; "Saul reigned one year, and when he had reigned two years over Israel. 2. Saul chose him three thousand men," &c. The passage literally rendered, says Mr. Moore, informs us, that "Saul was one year old when he began to reign, and reigned two years over Israel." It may, however, be translated, "Saul was the son of one year in his reign," which best agrees with the rendering of the Septuagint; *ὅς ἐν αὐτῇ τῇ Σαυλ ἐν τῷ βασιλείῳ αὐτοῦ**. The present commentator is persuaded that the verse is intended, like many others in these historical books, to mark the age of the king at his accession, and the total of his reign; and, therefore, from the supposition that both periods were originally designated by numeral letters, he undertakes to correct it thus: "Saul was twenty-seven years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years in Israel." Among the objections which may be made to this conjectural emendation, one is obvious; that the event mentioned in the second verse will thereby want a date: otherwise, the situation of the first verse, almost immediately following the confirmation of Saul in his kingdom, is very well calculated for that customary information which is given respecting almost every king in his turn. The period of forty years is chosen on the authority of St. Paul, and rendered further probable by arguments. The Appendix contains some useful remarks on the duration of Solomon's reign, and the whole tract discovers a laudable attention to Biblical criticism, and the cultivation of the Hebrew language.

- ART. 36. *The Duty of Clerical Residence stated and enforced. A Charge, delivered at the Primary Visitation of the Province of Ulster, in the Year 1796. By William Newcome, D.D. Member of the Royal Irish Academy, and Archbishop of Armagh. 8vo. 40 pp. 1s. Exshaw, Dublin; Johnson, London. 1798.*

The Archbishop employs very sound and eogent arguments, particularly applicable to the situations of the established clergy in Ireland at that period, to enforce the duty of residence, or, at least, to prevent all wanton and unjustifiable deviations from it. The Appendix is filled with legal and canonical documents, illustrating and confirming the sentiments delivered in the Charge.

* The verse is wanting in the Vatican copy.

ART. 37. *The Insufficiency of the Light of Nature exemplified in the Vices and Depravity of the Heathen World, including some Strictures on Paine's Age of Reason.* 8vo. 85 pp. 1s. 6d. Arch. 1797.

The danger of admitting, in the smallest degree, the depraved sophistry of Deism and Infidelity, is a sufficient apology for multiplying defences of the Christian system. It has afforded us pleasure to be able, since the publication of Paine's blasphemies, to commend a variety of treatises written on behalf of Revelation. The tract before us is not less intitled to the notice of our readers, than many of those which have preceded it.

The treatise contains a sound and forcible appeal to facts, upon the shameless assertion of Paine, "that the Deist lives more consistently and morally than the Christian." This position the present author subverts and exposes, by a reference to history, sacred and profane. From each of these it appears, and especially from the latter, that superstition, absurdity, and cruelty, were essential parts of their creed. This the author shows by very appropriate extracts from Herodotus, Diodorus, Strabo, Tacitus, &c. The morality of the philosophers he proves to have been grossly deficient, and to have admitted pride, lying, drunkenness, fornication, suicide, and in different examples of almost every vice in a certain proportion.

In the 4th and last chapter, many impious assertions in the "Age of Reason" are refuted, upon the most satisfactory principles; and with a degree of evidence which places the Christian religion in a most honourable light.

Upon the whole, we give to this tract our most cordial tribute of praise. It does not deal in declamatory matter, but presents to the eyes of the reader historical facts, drawn from the purest sources; and reasonings upon them, extracted from the most reputable authors. Should the pamphlet fall into the hands of the misguided Infidel, we wish him a candid mind; and may then predict the best effects from the perusal.

ART. 38. *Public Worship a social Duty. A Sermon, preached on the Occasion of the Author's being collated to a Prebend in the Cathedral Church of Lichfield, on Sunday, August 6, 1797, and designed as a friendly Exhortation to the higher Ranks of Society in Great Britain. By J. A. Thomas, Rector of Woolwich, Kent.* 8vo. Rivington. 1s. 6d. 1797.

A sensible discourse, which, on the whole, is creditable to the author's zeal and piety, though distinguished by no extraordinary acuteness of observation, or novelty of argument.* The style is, however, much more perfect, and the composition more respectable, than the preface to the Bishop of Rochester's sermons, written by the same author, and reviewed in the British Critic, vol. ix, p. 648.

- ART. 39. *Common Sense; or, the plain Man's Answer to the Question, whether Christianity be a Religion worthy of our Choice in this Age of Reason? In Two Letters to a deistical Friend. By Philalethes.* Crown 8vo. 30 pp. 6d. Knott, Lombard-Street.

If Philalethes truly tells his age (and his assumed name implies veracity in all respects) his little tract is a production not only of merit but curiosity. In the 88th year of life, men are seldom equal to the task of arranging arguments, and forming them into a composition. His previous assumptions indeed are numerous, and such as could not altogether be granted by a Deist not already converted; but there is clearness in his deductions, and, except an unnecessary sneer about priests and creed-makers, his Letters are not ill-calculated to produce a good effect upon minds capable of sober reflection. We are told, even by a sensible heathen, that "qui bonâ fide Deos colit, amat et sacerdotēs*;" and, as to creeds, since this writer seems to acquiesce in their main articles, he ought not to attack them. The vice of the present day is not making but denying them; and this habit leads directly to the very Deism which Philalethes would willingly convert. If he converts his deistical friend, it must be to something; and that something is his creed.

- ART. 40. *A Letter to William Wilberforce, Esq. on the Subject of his late Publication. By Gilbert Wakefield, B. A. late Fellow of Jesus College, Cambridge. The Second Edition, enlarged and corrected.* 8vo. 80 pp. 2s. Cuthell. 1797.

We are weary of attempting to distinguish and characterize the theologico-political rhapsodies of this most arrogant and violent man. They are all set to the same strain. Rancorous abuse of Mr. Pitt, as a man of blood; with aspirations in favour of Buonaparte, *doubtless* as an innocent lamb;—a Christianity, with no Christ in it, but the *man of Nazareth*;—a supercilious contempt of all opinions that do not coincide with his own fantastical, and absolutely and personally *singular* system; a hatred of all establishments, with eager prophecies and anticipations of the complete and entire destruction of them and their abettors (p. 54, &c.); tempered occasionally with an inconsistent, if not hypocritical, pretence of not wishing a hair of their heads to be touched (p. 60); these form the general character and texture of all his publications. The present is, if possible, more violent than any we have seen. We have classed it with Divinity, because written on the subject of a book which really belonged to that division; but it is chiefly political; an abuse of Mr. Wilberforce for supporting Mr. Pitt; attempting to prove, that *therefore* he must be either a fool or a hypocrite. By the grossest misrepresentation of some passages of Scripture, the author also endeavours to demonstrate some of his own favourite dogmas; and, among others, that human *perfectibility* and

* Statius. Sylv. 5.

absolute equality are the doctrines of that Gospel, which teaches, in fact, humility to man, and dutiful submission to legal ordinances. To say that such a man is *mad* (as he foretels in p. 74) would be to make the only complete apology that his conduct admits.

ART. 41. *A Word of gentle Admonition to Mr. Gilbert Wakefield; occasioned by his Letter to William Wilberforce, Esq. on the Subject of his late Publication.* By J. Watkins, LL. D. 8vo. 49 pp. 1s. Cawthorn. 1797.

A truly Christian and temperate remonstrance against the extravagant and indecent rant above-mentioned. The sentiments, in general, are correct, and the language good. The following passage, near the close, is so truly descriptive of the person addressed, that we cannot forbear inserting it. In answer to a bold assertion of Mr. W. concerning the respect due to his own opinions, this author says; "a man may have sacrificed more than hecatombs, and may have laboured for many years in the investigation of sacred truth, and all the time have been acting under the influence of a wrong spirit, a perturbed imagination, and with strong prejudices. He is therefore very far from being entitled to respect. I will not say that you are this man. But the extreme violence of your temper, the peremptoriness of your language, your dogmatical mode of argument, the haughty complacency with which you speak of yourself, and the uncharitable censures which you liberally pass upon others, whether living or dead, render your opinions of little value, and your assertions of no authority." P. 47.

This, and more to the same purpose, is well and justly said, and deserves to be seriously weighed by the person addressed. But this, and all that can be said, will be urged in vain, for the very reasons implied in that statement.

POLITICS.

ART. 42. *Remarks on the Conduct of Opposition during the present Parliament.* By Geoffrey Mowbray, Esq. 8vo. 117 pp. 2s. 6d. Wright, Piccadilly. 1798.

We conceive that this writer, in styling himself Geoffrey Mowbray, a name unknown, has condescended to imitate Jasper Wilson and others, who concealed their true designation under an appellation which might pass for real. He cannot, however, have the same reason. They wrote what it might be neither prudent or creditable to avow; this pamphlet is altogether honourable to the head and heart from which it proceeds.—It is not calculated to depress the spirits, and depreciate the resources of the country; to contradict the prevalent dispositions, and slander the intentions of the nation; but to argue solidly on a point which seems to him important; and, if possible, to teach individuals to prefer their country to their passions. The point on which he principally reasons, is the secession of the late leaders of
Opposition

Opposition from their duty in the House of Commons. We know not how the following arguments can be repelled. These members professedly retire because a reform of parliament cannot be obtained. "Let us grant," says he of this measure, but only for the sake of argument, "that it contains every possible blessing which an upright and able statesman can devise for the empire. Still the House of Commons reject it. Is a Member of Parliament to neglect the interests of his country altogether, because he cannot pay her every possible service? It is the boast of Mr. Fox, that he opposed our war with the Colonies, and that his labours were finally crowned with success. Whether the part which he took in that unhappy business furnishes an honest source for exultation, is a question which history must solve. But if the opposition of Mr. Fox was of such service in the war with America, why should he refuse it in the contest with France?"

"The praise of rectifying the minister's financial mistakes is claimed by Mr. Sheridan. If he has done this, the glory devolved on him, but the advantage redounded to his country. It may seem a poor and vulgar blessing in contrast with the imperial gift of a regenerate constitution. But still it is a blessing, and upon what principle are we called upon to make a lumping bargain, and told that if one is above our price, we shall not be permitted to acquire the other? If the mistakes of administration were to fall on ministers alone, they might be left to reap the fruits of their own folly. But the errors of government are misfortunes to the people. It is the duty of our constitutional guardians utterly to avert, where they can, all measures injurious to our prosperity: but an unsuccessful struggle to do so, does not dispense with what is not less their duty; to correct and soften those mischiefs which they find it impossible to remove altogether. They are retainers of the people, pledged and sworn to watch over their interests both day and night. While they continue upon the honourable post, nothing can exempt them from the fatigues of duty. When they are once chosen into the Commons House of Parliament, they are representatives, not of a particular district, but of the whole British people; and it is beyond the power of a borough, or county, to dispense with service that is due to the nation at large." P. 12.

The statements concerning Ireland have been unfortunately but too fully proved, and much more than proved, since the publication of this tract. There are other political topics handled in it, all with judgment and spirit, and in a style by no means level with the powers of ordinary writers.

ART. 43. *The Whole Official Correspondence between the Envoys of the American States and Mons. Talleyrand, Minister for Foreign Affairs in France, on the Subject of the Disputes between the Two Countries; and also the Purport of some private Conversations between the American Commissioners and an unaccredited Agent of the French Government, who was employed to make such Propositions, all tending to plunder the United States, as even M. Talleyrand could not dare to avow in the first Instance.* 12mo. 6d. Stockdale. 1798.

The circumstantial title-page of this little work supercedes the necessity of any critical remarks on its contents. We shall therefore be content

content with wishing it, what it will doubtless enjoy, a most extensive circulation.

ART. 44. *Observations on the Emigration of Dr. Joseph Priestley, and on the several Addresses delivered to him on his Arrival at New York. With Additions; containing many curious Facts on the Subject, not known when the former Editions were published: together with a comprehensive Story of a Farmer's Bull. By Peter Porcupine. The Fourth Edition. 8vo. 73 pp. 1s. 6d. Philadelphia. Reprinted by Wright, opposite Old Bond-Street, Piccadilly. 1798.*

Our acquaintance with the acute and humourous Peter Porcupine commenced with this tract, which was noticed much at large in our fourth volume, p. 498. We have never repented the just distinction we then gave to it, by making it a principal article; nor the attention it led us to pay to the other publications of the same author, whom ere long we discovered to be Mr. Cobbet of Philadelphia. In every thing produced by this self-taught writer, there is a force, a truth, and a natural wit, the effects of which have been most beneficial in America; and, we trust, not a little so in England. We mention the present edition only to notice that, from p. 49, it consists of new matter, not inferior to the original tract in point and spirit. We shall very soon give an account of his "Republican Judge."

ART. 45. *Some Observations on a late Address to the Citizens of Dublin, with Thoughts on the present Crisis. The Fourth Edition, corrected by the Author. To which is added, Vindicator's Remarks on Sarsfield's Letters, which appeared in the Dublin Evening Post. 8vo. 70 pp. 1s. 6d. Debrett. 1797.*

This pamphlet is written with much ability. The reasonings are temperate and sound; the style animated and energetic; and the animadversions such as appear to have been deserved by the respective publications against which they are directed.

MISCELLANIES.

ART. 46. *An Appendix to Observations on Hamlet; being an Attempt to prove that Shakspeare designed that Tragedy as an indirect Censure on Mary Queen of Scots. Containing, 1. Some Observations on Dramas which professedly allude to Occurrences and Characters of the Time in which they were Written, and an Answer to Objections brought against the Hypothesis. 2. Some farther Arguments in Support of it. 3. An Answer to the Objections brought against Dr. Warburton's Hypothesis, respecting an Allusion to Mary Queen of Scots, in the celebrated Passage in the Midsummer Night's Dream. By James Plumptre, M. A. 8vo. 85 pp. 2s. 6d. Cambridge printed; sold by Robinsons, Rivingtons, &c. &c. London. 1797.*

The palm of fair, candid, and ingenious criticism, cannot with justice be denied to Mr. Plumptre. His first observations on this subject

subject (noticed Brit. Crit. vol. viii, p. 202) did not convince us that his hypothesis was right; on perusing this Appendix, we are ready to admit that he has rendered it, at least, not improbable; which perhaps is as much as ought, in such a case, to be expected. A part of his present tract, which has considerable weight with us, is his reference to other dramas, in which designed allusions to temporary circumstances are known to exist. These instances though few are strong, and to his purpose. From these considerations, and the corroborating proofs brought forward in the next section, we allow it to be very possible, that Shakspeare had some idea of alluding to the story of Mary in this tragedy. With respect to the hypothesis of Dr. Warburton, which Mr. P. defends in his third section, we have always thought that it contained too many convincing marks of truth to be overthrown by any cavils. The Mermaid borne up by the Dolphin, the Vestal throned in the west, the maiden meditations, the stars drawn from their spheres by the seductions of the mermaid;—all these, and others, are coincidences too strong to be united accidentally in one passage; and we give full credit to Mr. P. for his judgment in defending the application.

ART. 47. *The Speeches (at length) of the Honourable T. Erskine and S. Kyd, Esq. at the Court of King's Bench, Westminster, on Saturday, June 24, 1797, on the Trial of T. Williams, for publishing Paine's Age of Reason; with Lord Kenyon's Charge to the Jury. Second Edition, corrected.* 8vo. 30 pp. 6d. Jordan, Fleet-Street; Chapple, Pall-Mall, &c.

When the speech of Mr. Erskine was recent, the most striking parts of it, and those of most importance to the cause of religion, were very properly given in most of the periodical and daily publications. We have lately found reason to suppose that many persons have seen no more of it than was contained in those extracts; and that many are uninformed of the existence of complete editions of the whole. It appears, therefore, to be an act of public utility to recall to notice, after some interval, a speech which ought by no means to be forgotten, and to point it out to those who may not yet have seen it. Few pleadings of more excellence, more clearness of language, more solidity of argument, more judicious and eloquent illustrations of those arguments, have been committed to the press; and the fame of the pleader will, with many persons, appear to give new weight to arguments in themselves conclusive. Lord Kenyon's Charge contains also very valuable statements, and deserves to be read with attention. Mr. Kyd's Speech does some credit to his ingenuity as an advocate, but tends in no degree to invalidate the most momentous doctrines of his opponent.

ART. 48. *A Letter to the Honourable Thomas Erskine, on the Prosecution of Thomas Williams, for publishing the Age of Reason. By Thomas Paine, Author of Common Sense, Rights of Man, Agrarian Justice, &c. &c.* Paris, printed for the Author. 8vo. 31 pp. 1797.

Very little is addressed to Mr. Erskine in this letter, which is rather a third part of the *Age of Reason*, than any proper discussion of the conduct

conduct of the person attacked, in the prosecution to which it alludes. Paine indeed contends, that the previous question in the trial should have been the truth of the Bible itself; without designing to consider what Mr. Erskine so properly states, that the constitution of our laws, the forms of the court, and trial, and every circumstance of them pre-suppose that truth, without which all the rest would be void and nugatory. The chief matters alledged against M. Erskine are in the introduction, and those are probably calumnies. From the latter part of the 21st page, this pamphlet contains only an account of the Theophilanthropists, a society lately established in Paris; and a discourse of Paine pronounced at that society. This discourse is composed chiefly of arguments against atheism, some of which are acute.

ART. 49. *Falsehood detected: being Animadversions on Mr. Paine's Letter to the Honourable Thomas Erskine, on the Trial of Thomas Williams, for publishing "the Age of Reason;" wherein his Attacks upon the Bible are examined, and shown to be founded in Misrepresentation and Falsehood. In a Letter to a Friend. By John Marfom. Crown 8vo. 33 pp. 6d. Marfom, 187, High Holborn, &c. 1798.*

The answers here given to the allegations of Paine, urged in the preceding pamphlet, are sufficient for the purpose intended, and are expressed with propriety and modesty. If they who read Paine's sophistries, would read also the answers to them, there would be little danger in the circulation; but the air of positiveness, and even of triumph, which that author constantly assumes, is dreadfully calculated to mislead those multitudes who either are not willing, or not able to weigh the comparative force of arguments on such subjects. Mr. Marfom has done very laudably, in offering a plain and concise refutation, for the benefit of those who are desirous of such assistance.

ART. 50. *Manual of the Theophilanthropes, or Adorers of God, and Friends of Men. Containing the Exposition of their Dogmas, of their moral, and of their religious Practices; with Instructions respecting the Organization and Celebration of their Worship. Arranged by certain Citizens, and adopted by the Theophilanthropic Societies established in Paris. Second Edition. Translated by John Walker, Author of Elements of Geography, and Universal Gazetteer. 12mo or 32 pp. 6d. Daron and Harvey. 1797.*

It is a relief to see even a single step made from that gloomy and tremendous Atheism, which of late infected so many minds in France. Whether it be the purpose of Providence to make a rational belief in God lead to a true and pure belief in Christ, and the Gospel, we cannot presume to say; but such is our hope, and it is not out of the compass of probability; though Paine appears as a promoter of the present Manual.

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- ART. 51. *Easter Holidays, or Domestic Conversations; designed for the Instruction, and, it is hoped, for the Amusement of young People.* 8vo. 3s. 6d. Vernoir and Hood. 1797.

A very suitable book for young persons, and written with sufficient attention to style and arrangement of matter.

- ART. 52. *Remarks on a late Pamphlet entitled "Letters Political, Military and Commercial, on the present State and Government of Oude and its Dependencies," containing a Copy and Explanation of the Treaty of Commerce between the East-India Company and the Nawauab Vizier; together with a Sketch of the Measures taken during the Marquis Cornwallis's Government in regard to the Vizier.* By Edward Otto, Resident at the Nawauab Vizier's Court. 4to. 25 pp. Debrett. 1796.

The publication referred to by Mr. Ives, has already had a place in our Review. The author of the present pamphlet, without differing altogether from the writer upon whom he remarks, offers some observations tending to elucidate the commercial engagement between the Company and the Nawauab Vizier; and to demonstrate that the conduct of the late Governor General was wise and politic.

- ART. 53. *Considerations on the Attempt of the East-India Company to become Manufacturers in Great Britain.* 4to. 34 pp. 2s. Sewell. 1796.

This pamphlet is the production of a writer manifestly conversant with the business which he undertakes to discuss. The East-India Company had formed some resolutions of importing raw silk in large quantities, and throwing some portion of it into organzine (silk prepared) in order to serve as a substitute for the organzine now imported from Italy. For effecting this end, they were to hire mills in different parts of the country. Against the whole of this project the writer contends with much warmth, as tending with detriment to the merchants now employed in silk manufactories, and on other grounds equally plausible. Having stated the injury which the revenue must suffer from the importation of raw, rather than organzine silk (the former paying three, while the latter pays seven shillings per pound) he concludes by objecting to the *right* of the Company, which is a *trading*, and not a *manufacturing* corporation, commencing monopolists in the latter sense. "Who knows," says this writer, "whether they will not soon print their own *calicoes*, make their own *gunpowder*, wind, spin, and weave their own *cottons*, bake and refine their own *sugars*, &c." Should this become the case, "the advantages resulting from the various energies and competitions of private capital in our manufactures, would be lost to the community."

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- ART. 54. *Pity's Gift, a Collection of interesting Tales, to excite the Compassion of Youth for the Animal Creation, ornamented with Vignettes, From the Writings of Mr. Pratt, selected by a Lady.* 12mo. 147 pp. 2s. Longman. 1798.

Compassion to the animal race cannot be too early cultivated in the youthful breast. Domestic animals, and some insects, are a kind of dependents on children, and care must be taken lest these powers should be abused, and their dependents suffer. Cruelty and insensibility to man always commences in cruelty to animals. This may be safely recommended as forming a useful and elegant little present for young people. We would, however, remark that a sense of true religion is the only adequate security for compassion even to the animal race. The stories are pleasing, and the vignettes not ill executed, on wood.

- ART. 55. *Biographical Curiosities, or various Pictures of human Nature, containing original and authentic Memoirs of Daniel Dancer, Esq. an extraordinary Miser, &c. &c.* 12mo. 3s. 6d. Ridgway. 1798.

In this entertaining little volume, the compiler has agreeably brought together a number of lives of persons recently dead, whose peculiarities or merits have much interested the attention and curiosity of the public. Such as those of Mr. Elwes, Jonas Hanway, Ludwig, &c. The life also of Eugene Aram is here detailed; a story, which, for the sake of morality, we are never sorry to see repeated, as its catastrophe is a remarkable example of the distributive justice of Providence even in this world.

- ART. 56. *Cary's New Itinerary: or an accurate Delineation of the Great Roads, both direct and cross, throughout England and Wales, with many of the principal Roads in Scotland. From an actual Admeasurement, made by Command of his Majesty's Postmaster General, for official Purposes; under the Direction and Inspection of Thomas Huffer, Esq. Surveyor and Superintendant of the Mail-Coaches. By John Cary, Surveyor of the Roads to the General Post Office. To which are added, at the End of each Route, the Names of those Inns which supply Post Horses and Carriages; accompanied with a most extensive Selection of Noblemen's and Gentlemen's Seats; a List of the Packet Boats, and their Time of sailing; copious Indexes, &c. &c.* 8vo. 796 pp. 8s. Cary, 181, Strand. 1798.

We have not only heard, but have seen convincing proofs, that the materials of this volume have been so collected, as to secure a degree of accuracy never before attained. The assertions in the title-page we believe to be strictly true, and the traveller will find not only more exactness, but a much greater quantity of information than was ever hitherto comprised in such a work. The notices of the country seats of the nobility and gentry are very copious, and by means of an accurate index are easily found at pleasure, either by the name of the place or the possessor. A publication so well executed, and offering so many conveniences, cannot fail to be encouraged.

ART. 57. *The New Annual Register, or General Repository of British Politics and Literature for the Year 1796. To which is prefixed, the History of Knowledge, Learning, and Taste, in Great Britain, during the Commonwealth and the Usurpation of Cromwell.* 8vo. 9s. Robinsons. 1797.

Few of our readers are unacquainted with the general merits of the *New Annual Register*; as few are, we think, unacquainted with the spirit and temper in which it is conducted. The historical part of this year (and it is to this department that we principally allude) is carried into great detail. Nearly 300 pages are taken up by the political events of that period, most critical to the safety and existence of the British empire. We are far from condemning the length or minuteness of this narration in the compiler; but we should have been better satisfied had the writer discovered that spirit of equity and moderation, without which history becomes a libel. He might also have been more sparing of the Italic character (an artifice in great repute with politicians of a certain class) especially as he appears not to have known how to use them with impartiality. Of the other departments which this work contains, we can deliver our opinion with less reserve and exception. They embrace an equal variety of matter with that which the preceding volumes have been found to exhibit: and, if we could discover as much candour in the narration of political events, as we do industry and judgment in the compilation of general matters, we should neither see nor seek an occasion to condemn the book. The most important part of it, however, must be condemned without reserve, by all who do not wish to see the sources of history corrupted, and the distortion of facts employed as a most powerful engine for disseminating discontent.

ART. 58. *The Life of Bianca Capello, Wife of Francesco de' Medici, Grand Duke of Tuscany. Translated from the German Original of J. P. Siebenkees, by C. Ludger.* 12mo. 180 pp. 3s. Lee and Hurst. 1797.

During a residence of some length at Venice, Mr. S. had opportunities of collecting, not only several publications little known out of Italy, but also various unpublished documents concerning the life and mysterious death of this fascinating lady; of which he has availed himself, to draw out the account of her life now before us. The particulars of her flight from Venice; her marriage with Buonaventuri; her intercourse with Francesco de Medici before marriage; and the nuptials at length solemnized between her and the Duke, have been so frequently related in recent publications*, that we think it needless to dwell any longer upon these subjects. As to the catastrophe of this last mentioned couple, it appears by this account more than likely,

* Among others, in Tenhove's *History of the House of Medici*. Brit. Crit. vol. xi, p. 471.

that they both died a natural death; the Duke from the effects of intemperance, and Bianca of a dropfical disorder. The inquest which was given on her body after death, and is here produced for the first time, seems no doubt to favour that opinion: and as to the report that she and her husband were the victims of her atrocious design to poison the Cardinal Ferdinando, her brother in law, arguments are adduced to prove the improbability of such an attempt, which, it is shown; would have been no less impolitic than wicked.

ART. 59. *The Monthly Reviewers reviewed. By the Rev. J. Howlett, Vicar of Great Dunmow, Essex.* 8vo. 1s. 6d. Richardson. 1798.

Of the pamphlet, of which the present is a vindication, we have given, as we conceive, a fair, impartial, and candid criticism, in a former volume; and we are particularly happy to find, that we are further countenanced in that opinion, by men of acknowledged experience in agricultural affairs. However uninteresting to the generality of readers, or however repugnant to our feelings a literary warfare may be, yet, in the present instance, we think Mr. H. has a fair claim to the attention of the public; and upon their perusal of this publication, we entertain not the smallest doubt but that the claim will be admitted. In the present work, Mr. H. has given additional strength to his preceding remarks, and has by no means indulged himself in any illiberal censure upon those to whom the present sheets are addressed.

ART. 60. *Moral Reflections, suggested by a View of London from off the Monument. By John Evans, A. M.* 12mo. 6d. Crosby. 1798.

A sensible and truly moral little pamphlet. The author has before written, and written well, on religious and moral subjects.

ART. 61. *A Guide from Glasgow to some of the most remarkable Scenes in the Highlands of Scotland, and to the Falls of the Clyde. By James M'Nayr.* 8vo. No Publisher's Name. 1798.

A very entertaining and well-written volume, which will be exceedingly useful to the visitors of the romantic and beautiful scenes that are here described. The author has before been serviceable to the public, by a *System of English Conveyancing*, and an *Essay on Contingent Debts*, published before the *British Critic* appeared. We are sorry not to have room to insert the verses written on a pane of glass, by Mr. Russel, and to be found at p. 158.

ART. 62. *Infant Institutions. Part the First; or, a nurserical Essay on the Poetry, Lyric and Allegorical, of the earlier Ages. With an Appendix.* 8vo. 1s. 6d. Rivingtons. 1797.

It is by no means easy to see the motive of this writer, but he has a portion of liveliness about him, and some humour. We little thought to see a learned criticism on the lullaby of our infant years, sing hey diddle, diddle, &c.

ART.

- ART. 63. *The Liverpool Guide, including a Sketch of the Environs, with a Map of the Town.* By W. Moss. Second Edition enlarged. 8vo. 2s. 6d. Vernor and Hood. 1797.

A very useful manual, accompanied by a neat and well executed map. The sketch of the Environs is too succinct; and in some future edition should be extended.

- ART. 64. *Asraa's Return; or, the Halcyon Days of France, in the Year 2440, a Dream; translated from the French.* By Harriet Augusta Freeman. 8vo. 3s. 6d. Hookham. 1797.

This is a translation from the French of Mercier, and as a translation, is entitled to considerable praise. The reputation of the original author, whose name should have been mentioned in the title-page of this publication, is established among his countrymen, and indeed universally, by various works of ability; and this, in particular, though in the highest degree fanciful; is very ingenious, and full of amusing, and often interesting incidents.

- ART. 65. *Narrative of the Shipwreck of the Juno, on the Coast of Afracan, and of the singular Preservation of Fourteen of her Company, on the Wreck, without Food, during a Period of Twenty-three Days. In a Letter to his Father, the Rev. Thomas Mackay, Minister of Laing, Sutherlandshire.* By William Mackay, late Second Officer of the Ship. The Second Edition, with Notes and Illustrations. 8vo. 2s. 6d. Nicol. 1798.

This melancholy tale exhibits a parallel to the wonderful and almost miraculous escape of Captain Bligh. It is written in a simple and impressive manner; and must unavoidably excite in every feeling mind, the tenderest sympathy and deepest commiseration.

FOREIGN CATALOGUE.

SWITZERLAND.

- ART. 66. *Comp d'oeil sur le renversement de la Suisse.* 12mo. 74 pp. De l'imprimerie des petits Cantons. Suisses. 1798.

Though the dishonest intrigues, and tyrannical aggressions of France, have been developed to the eyes of mankind so often as to be now abundantly notorious, they cannot in any instance appear in a form

form more truly odious than in the conduct of that nation to the independent and allied Cantons of Switzerland. This conduct is here traced with rapidity, but with such force and clearness, that we cannot but recommend it to be published in an English translation, for the general instruction of our countrymen. "Little does it signify," says this honest Swiss, "whether governments are friendly or hostile to France, aristocratic or popular, monarchical or republican, the present of liberty is every where the stale pretence for their seizure, devastation, and that anarchy united with misery which is its final result. If the Directory, carried away by public opinion, is sometimes forced to speak of peace, either it offers conditions which cannot be accepted, or if it forms a partial peace with some powers of the first order, it is only with the view of dividing and weakening the forces it opposes, and subduing them more easily in detail. It then sends forth, as ambassadors, chiefs approved in the art of spreading their principles, charged with the task of uniting the seditious of the country into clubs, of augmenting their number, assisting their efforts, affording them encouragement, promising them protection.—When the poison has sufficiently attacked the essential parts of the state, then the Directory finds cause of quarrel with the government, brings forward the seditious into act, supports them with armed force, and obtains a triumph without danger...." The writer adds, in a judicious note, what may very usefully instruct this country as to the consequences of a temporary peace with France, could it be effected. "We may without hesitation date the corruption of public opinion in a state, from the day in which an ambassador of the French republic is received. The insurrections which break out wherever these gentry are stationed, make it impossible to doubt either of the principal object of their mission, or of the ardour with which they fulfil it." So great is the evil, that the warnings against it cannot be too much multiplied.

FRANCE.

ART. 67. *Voyage pittoresque de l'Asie et de la Dalmatie, contenant la description historique des monumens, des sites, productions, costumes, mœurs et usages des habitans, et enrichi d'estampes, cartes et plans au nombre de 60 à 66, exécutés par les plus habiles graveurs, sur les dessins coloriés du plus bel effet, et pris sur les lieux; par Cassas, un des artistes employés par l'auteur du Voyage de la Grèce. Première livraison, composée de six estampes (grand in folio). Prix de chaque livraison 15 francs, et fut papier velin 25 francs. Paris. 1797.*

These Travels are formed on the model of the *Voyage de Naples et des deux Siciles*, by the Abbé de Saint-Non, and of the *Voyage de la Grèce*, by Choiseul-Gouffier. The editors will form them into one volume, of the same size with those works, of which, indeed, this is to be considered as the sequel.

As the historical and descriptive part has not appeared, we can only speak of the engravings.

The names of the artists, *Née, Bertaux, Masquelier, &c.* will undoubtedly be considered as a testimony in their favour. Among the engravings given in this first *livraison*, that which presents the view of the entrance into the *road and port of Pola*, and the two views of the triumphal arch called *Porta aurea*, will be particularly distinguished by amateurs.

The engravings are executed after the designs of Mr. *Cassas*. This artist was one of those whom the author of the *Voyage pittoresque de la Grèce* employed to delineate on the spot the most interesting monuments and landscapes. But *Cassas*, not satisfied with travelling through Greece, *Istria*, and *Dalmatia*, visited likewise *Syria*, *Phœnicia*, lower *Egypt* and *Palestine*; and of the materials collected by him in those countries will be formed a second work, which is, we understand, soon to be published.

Espr. d. Journaux.

ART. 68. *Voyage en Angleterre, en Ecosse et aux îles Hébrides; par B. Faujas St. Fond. Two Vols. in 8vo. Paris. 1797.*

The principal object described in these Travels, is the famous grotto of *Fingal*, in the Hebrides. The author gives, *en passant*, a mineralogical description of the country about *Newcastle*, the mountains of *Derbyshire*, of the environs of *Edinburgh*, *Glasgow*, *Perth*, *St. Andrew's*, and *Inverary*; accompanied with observations interesting to the sciences, the arts, natural history, and manners.

As a specimen of the work, we shall here subjoin an abridged account of

“ *The Grotto of Fingal, or An-narvine.*

“ Ce superbe monument,” says our author, “ d’un grand incendie souterrain, qui se perd dans l’antiquité des temps, a un caractère d’ordre et de régularité si étonnant, qu’il est difficile à l’observateur le plus froid et le moins sensible aux phénomènes qui tiennent aux révolutions du globe, de n’être pas singulièrement étonné à l’aspect de cette espèce de palais naturel, qui semble tenir du prodige.” . . .

“ L’entrée de ce beau monument a trente-cinq pieds d’ouverture, sa hauteur cinquante-six, et sa profondeur cent quarante.

“ Les colonnes verticales qui composent la façade, sont de la plus parfaite régularité; elles ont quarante-cinq pieds d’élévation jusqu’à la naissance de la voûte.

“ Le ceintre est composé de deux demicourbes inégales, et qui forment une espèce de fronton naturel.

“ Le massif qui couronne le toit, ou plutôt qui le forme, a vingt pieds dans sa moindre épaisseur; c’est un composé de prismes d’un petit calibre, plus ou moins réguliers, affectant toutes sortes de directions, étroitement réunis, et cimentés en dessous et dans les joints par de la matière calcaire d’un blanc jaunâtre, et par des infiltrations zéolitiques, qui donnent à ce beau plafond l’aspect d’une mosaïque.

“ La mer pénètre jusqu’à l’extrémité de la grotte; elle a quinze pieds de profondeur à l’entrée; et sans cesse agitée, se vag ~ risent
et

et se divisent en écume, en frappant avec fracas contre le fond et les parois de la caverne. Le jour pénètre, en se dégradant, dans toute sa profondeur avec des accidens de lumière d'un effet merveilleux.

“ Le côté droit de l'entrée présente, à sa partie extérieure, un amphithéâtre assez vaste, formé par divers rangs de gros prismes tronqués sur lesquels on peut facilement marcher; plusieurs de ces prismes sont articulés, c'est à dire, concaves d'un côté, et convexes de l'autre; d'autres sont divisés par de simples coupures transversales.

“ Les prismes d'un basalte noir extrêmement pur et d'une grande dureté, ont depuis un pied jusqu'à trois pieds de diamètre; on en distingue de triangulaires, de tétraèdres, de pentagones, d'hexagones, quelques-uns sont à sept et à huit pans. J'ai remarqué plusieurs gros prismes sur la troncature desquels on reconnoît très-bien des ébauches de prismes; c'est à dire, que ces prismes sont formés d'un basalte qui a une tendance à se déviser lui-même en prismes; de manière qu'un gros prisme est composé d'ébauches de plusieurs petits. J'avois déjà fait la même observation sur des basaltes prismatiques du Vivarais.

“ On peut entrer dans la grotte par le côté droit seulement, en suivant la plateforme dont j'ai parlé; mais la voie se rétrécit, et la route devient bien difficile à mesure qu'on avance; car cette espèce de galerie intérieure, exhaussée de plus de quinze pieds sur le niveau de l'eau, n'est formée que de prismes tronqués, placés verticalement et plus ou moins élevés, entre lesquels il faut avoir l'adresse de choisir des passages, qui sont quelquefois si étroits et si glissans à cause des suintemens, que je pris le parti très prudent, qui me fut suggéré par nos deux guides, de marcher pieds nus, et de m'aider de leur secours, surtout dans un endroit où il n'y a de la place que pour poser un pied, tandis qu'on saisit de la main droite un grand prisme pour se retenir, et que de l'autre on s'empare de la main d'un des guides. Cette manœuvre difficile se fait dans la partie la moins éclairée de la grotte, et l'on a la moitié du corps suspendue alors sur un abyme, où la mer est si agitée qu'elle forme un nuage d'écume.

“ Comme je voulois pénétrer jusqu'au fond, j'en vins à bout, non sans peine ni sans danger; je me sentois quelquefois distrait des observations que j'étois bien aise de faire, par l'idée du retour.

“ A mesure qu'on approche du fond de la grotte, l'espèce de balcon hardi sur lequel on a cheminé, s'agrandit et présente un emplacement assez vaste, disposé en plan incliné formé par des milliers de colonnes verticales tronquées.

“ On arrive ainsi à l'extrémité de la grotte, terminée par un mur de colonnes d'un seul jet; et d'inégale grandeur, qui imitent un buffet d'orgue.” . . .

“ Comme la mer n'étoit pas, à beaucoup près, tranquille, lorsque je visitai cette même grotte, j'entendois un bruit, toutes les fois que les vagues, se succédant avec rapidité, venoient se briser contre le fond de la caverne. Ce bruit étoit semblable à celui que produiroit un corps dur d'un gros volume qui frapperoit lourdement et avec force contre un autre corps dur, dans un lieu souterrain et caveux; le choc en étoit tel qu'on l'entendoit au loin, et que la grotte en étoit comme ébranlée. Voisin du lieu où il s'opéroit, et où l'eau est moins profonde

lorsque la vague se retire, je cherchai à découvrir d'où pouvoit provenir ce choc effrayant, et je ne tardai pas à reconnoître qu'il existoit un peu au dessous de la base sur laquelle portent les colonnes en bassin d'orgue, une ouverture qui sert d'issue à une cavité, peut-être même à une petite grotte, dans laquelle il est impossible de pénétrer; mais où il est à présumer qu'un bloc détaché, poussé avec une violence extrême par l'impétuosité du flot, vient heurter avec fracas contre les parois de la cavité. L'on voit d'un autre côté, par le bouillonnement que l'eau éprouve dans cette partie, qu'il y a d'autres petites issues par lesquelles l'eau sort, lorsqu'elle s'est introduite en masse par l'ouverture principale; de manière qu'il est possible, lorsque la mer n'est par assez agitée pour mettre en action le bloc emprisonné dans la cavité, qu'alors l'air fortement comprimé par le poids de l'eau qui ne cesse jamais d'être en mouvement dans cette partie, ne produise, en sortant par les petites ouvertures latérales, un son particulier qui a quelque chose de surprenant; et ce seroit véritablement alors une espèce d'orgue faites des mains de la nature: ceci expliqueroit très-bien pourquoi le nom antique et véritable de cette grotte, en langue erse, est celui de *grotte mélodieuse**. . .

" Mesures et dimensions de la grotte de Fingal.

- " Largeur de l'entrée, prise à l'ouverture et à fleur d'eau 35 pieds.
 " Hauteur, prise depuis le niveau de la mer jusqu'au centre de la voûte 56
 " Profondeur de la mer en face de la grotte, à midi 27
 Septembre, et à douze pieds de distance de l'entrée . . . 15
 " Epaisseur de la voûte, mesurée à l'extérieure depuis le centre jusqu'au plus haut 20

* " Sir Joseph Banks est le premier qui ait donné à la grotte de Staffa le nom de grotte de Fingal. J'ai pris les renseignemens les plus exacts auprès de plusieurs personnes très-instruites dans la langue erse, gallique ou celtique, et notamment auprès de M. Mac-Liane de Torloisk et de M. Mac-Donald de Sky, pour savoir quel rapport pourroit avoir cette grotte avec le père d'Ossian; et ces messieurs m'ont assuré, ainsi que d'autres personnes, que c'étoit une equivoque de nom qui avoit occasionné l'erreur. Voici leur explication: le véritable nom de la grotte est *an-ua-vine*. *An*, la; *ua*, qu'on prononce *ona*, grotte, cave, caverne; *vine*, mélodieuse. Le nom de Fingal, dans la même langue, s'écrit et se prononce *Fion* au nominatif; mais les noms erses se déclinent, et le génitif de Fingal est *Fine*, de manière que si l'on vouloit dire la grotte de Fingal en langue erse, on écrirait *an ua Fine*. Ainsi, entre le mot erse *vine*, mélodieux, et le génitif de Fingal, *Fine*, il n'y a de différence que le changement de la lettre *v* en *f*; ainsi, au lieu de traduire *grotte mélodieuse*, nom véritable de cette caverne; quelqu'un, qui n'étoit pas assez versé dans la langue erse, à pu traduire à M. Banks, les mots *an ua-vine*, par grotte de Fingal; tandis que le véritable sens, le sens littéral, est *grotte mélodieuse*; et dans ce cas l'observation de M. Troil, sur le son agréable qu'il a entendu sortir du fond de la grotte lorsque le gouffre absorbe l'eau, est précieuse et vient à l'appui de la véritable dénomination."

" Profondeur

" Profondeur intérieure de la grotte, depuis l'entrée jusqu'à son extrémité 140

" Hauteur des plus grandes colonnes vers le côté droit de l'entrée 45

" Profondeur de la mer dans l'intérieur de la grotte, 10 pieds 9 pouces ; et 8 pieds dans certains endroits, un peu moins dans le fond."

" De très-belles colonnades occupent plus de la moitié de la circonférence de l'île, et sont absolument à découvert à l'extérieur du côté de la mer ; elles reposent, en général, sur un courant de lave graveleuse, qui leur sert de base et de support ; elles ont suivi la direction plus ou moins inclinée, plus ou moins horizontale de ce courant. Toutes ces chauffées prismatiques sont recouvertes par une énorme coulée de lave plus ou moins compacte, tendant plus moins à la forme prismatique. Le sommet de ce couronnement est recouvert d'un peu de terre végétale, preuve de la décomposition de la lave, et de quelques foibles graminées communes qui y croissent.

" Plus de la moitié de l'île est donc supportée par des colonnes plus ou moins verticales ; tout le reste est absolument composé de laves plus ou moins mélangées de fragmens d'autres laves, d'infiltrations zéolitiques, de linéamens calcaires et de suintemens calcédonieux qui ont quelquefois pénétré la substance même de la zéolite.

" Une des chauffées, au nord de la grande grotte, mérite l'attention du naturaliste par la disposition, la masse, la pureté et l'élévation des prismes, qui ont plus de quarante huit pieds de hauteur, et sont placés verticalement comme des tuyaux d'orgue ; cette magnifique colonnade est recouverte par un courant de lave compacte de plus de cinquante pieds d'épaisseur, composé d'innombrables petits prismes qui divergent dans toutes les directions. Elle repose sur un courant de neuf pieds d'épaisseur, de lave graveleuse noire, dont la pâte est un mélange de diverses autres laves, divisées en petits fragmens irréguliers, et qui ont été réunies par un ciment naturel, composé de terre calcaire, de zéolite, et de substance calcédonieuse ; enfin, tout me porte à considérer ce courant comme le résultat d'une éruption volcanique, dans laquelle l'eau, entrant en concours avec le feu, a empâté toutes ces matières. Une partie de ce courant de lave est sous les eaux de la mer."

ART. 69. *Théorie de la Terre, par Jean Claude de la Métherie : seconde édition, corrigée et augmentée d'une minéralogie.* Paris ; 5 Vols. 8vo. (Prix. 30 Livr. broché).

The two first volumes contain a complete treatise on Mineralogy. The knowledge of minerals must be regarded as the basis of the theory of the earth, since it is the business of the geologist to explain its formation.—The author divides the substances which compose the globe into ten classes.

In the *third* volume he explains, in a concise manner, the general properties of matter, and then proceeds :

" Toutes les parties premières de matière, agiées sans cesse par leurs forces, se rapprochent, se combinent et forment des premiers composés, tels

tels que le feu, le fluide lumineux, le fluide éthéré, le fluide électrique, le fluide magnétique, les différentes espèces d'airs, les différentes espèces de terres, l'eau—

“ Ces différens composés primitifs qu'on appelle élémens, conserveront plus ou moins d'activité. Ils se mouvront, se heurteront. Ils s'uniront un instant, s'éloigneront le moment suivant, se réuniront de nouveau, et enfin résultera une *cristallisation générale de toute la matière existante*. Ces combinaisons ont formé deux espèces de corps : les solides et les fluides.

“ On m'a demandé quel étoit, suivant moi, le mouvement des parties premières de matière, quelle étoit leur direction pour opérer cette cristallisation générale.

“ Ma réponse est simple. J'ignore absolument le mode dont s'est produit ce grand phénomène ; mais je vois que si je mêle dans un vase très étendu, un grand nombre de substances qui aient différentes affinités, telles que celles qui se trouvent dans les lessives des salpêtriers, toutes ces substances se réunissent chacune à part, suivant les choix d'élection, et cristallisent séparément.

“ Je vois également les substances qui forment les pierres des terrains primitifs, tels que les quartz, les feld-spaths, les micas, les tourmalines, les hornblendes, les différens gemmes, les différens schorls, cristalliser chacun séparément. Comment s'opèrent ces combinaisons ? Je l'ignore ; mais le fait est certain. C'est tout ce que nous pouvons dire dans ce moment—

“ Dans cette cristallisation générale de la matière, les parties similaires se seront réunies par la loi des affinités dans les différens points de l'espace. Elles y auront formé divers centres.

“ Les molécules composant les corps solides se seront jointes ; les parties les plus pesantes auront gagné les centres de ces masses. C'est ainsi que se seront formées les masses principales des différens corps célestes.

“ Les parties les plus légères auront surnagé. Ce seront les fluides qui formeront les atmosphères de ces grands corps, et rempliront les espaces intermédiés. Le nombre de ces fluides ne nous est peut-être pas encore entièrement connu. Jusqu'ici nous n'en connoissons que huit : le fluide calorique, le fluide électrique, le fluide magnétique, le fluide lumineux, le fluide éthéré, l'air pur ou l'oxigène, l'air impur ou l'azote, l'air inflammable ou l'hydrogène.”

Mr. Delamétherie afterwards considers fluids with relation to their effects on the globe of the earth, and terminates this volume by describing the manner according to which he conceives that the ethereal, or *gravific* fluid may be supposed to produce universal gravitation.

The *fourth* and *fifth* volumes are employed in the elucidation of different geologic phenomena. It is to be understood that the author always takes it for granted, that it is by means of crystallisation that they operate.

“ Toutes les substances minérales,” says he, “ sont cristallisées ainsi que nous venons de le voir. Les unes le sont d'une manière régulière, les autres d'une manière confuse. Le résultat de toutes ces cristallisations particulières a été le globe de la terre. Cette vue générale ne suffit pas

au

au géologue; il doit entrer dans les détails pour rendre raison de chaque phénomène.

" Je suppose que toute la matière qui compose notre globe, a été liquide dans le principe. Cette liquidité est indiquée par la forme sphéroïdale de sa masse totale, laquelle est entièrement conforme à la théorie des forces centrales.

" Cette liquidité étoit aqueuse, c'est à dire opérée par l'eau et non par le feu.

" Les parties les plus pesantes se sont réunies vers le centre du globe, et ont repoussé les plus légères à la surface.

" Toutes ces substances ont cristallisé dans le sein des eaux, lesquelles par conséquent couvroient les plus hautes montagnes.

" Les eaux se sont retirées, les continents ont paru.

" Ces continents n'étoient composés que de terrains primitifs.

" Les végétaux et les animaux ont été produits par une génération spontanée.

" Les eaux ont ensuite formé les terrains dans lesquels les débris des animaux et des végétaux sont amoncelés.

" Les eaux ont continué de se retirer en laissant à découvert des nouvelles couches."

The author then endeavours to point out the manner in which the different mineral substances may have crystallized. He then proceeds to treat of subterraneous fires, which are much more numerous than is generally imagined. He explains their principal phenomena, and investigates their causes. There are, he observes, only four sorts of mineral substances which can burn: 1. Fossil wood, turf, and the bitumens; 2. anthracites and plumbago; 3. sulphur; 4. pyrites and metallic substances. He thinks that all these may contribute to the support of subterraneous fires, but that those which contribute the most are sulphur and pyrites.

Water has always had, and still has, so great a share in the production of geologic phenomena, that the geologist cannot pay too much attention to it. According to this author's hypothesis, it has kept either in dissolution, or in solution, all mineral substances. The most elevated mountains have been produced in its bosom; and yet the mass of water existing at present on the surface of the sea, would not form a bed of more than from seven to eight hundred feet, were it to envelop the whole globe: for the mean depth of the sea is not estimated at more than two hundred and fifty toises, that is, from twelve to fifteen hundred feet. Now there is nearly one half of the surface of the earth which is not covered with water. Such a small quantity of water could not have kept in dissolution, or in solution, all these mineral substances. At the time therefore when all these substances were dissolved, or kept in a state of solution, the mass of water must have been much more than that which now exists on the surface of the earth. What then can have become of this water? The author supposes that it may have been received into the interior part of the globe.

With regard to the exterior beds of the earth, Mr. *Delamétherie* supposes that they may have been formed, like the mass of the globe, by crystallization. The mountains he conceives to be enormous crystallized masses. He allows indeed that many of them may have owed their

their formation to other particular causes, such as volcanic eruptions, the action of the water by which vallies are produced, &c. In general the author, in the explanation of geologic phenomena, excludes none of those particular causes, but he regards them only as secondary ones, nor does he admit of any other general cause than crystallisation. He terminates his work with a succinct account of the different systems of the most celebrated philosophers on the subject of geology and cosmogony.

Esp. d. Journaux.

ITALY.

ART. 70. *Elementi di Mineralogia—per il Cavalier Antonio Napione, consigliere e visitatore delle mine di S. M. il Rè di Sardegna, direttore del laboratorio metallurgico dell' arsenale, Tom. I. Torino, 1797.*

This volume is intended to give the history of the earths and salts.

The history of these substances is preceded by a preliminary discourse, to which we think it necessary to pay some attention.

The author having given the definition of mineralogy, and passed a censure on those mineralogists who have placed water among fossil substances, whereas it properly belongs to the atmospheric kingdom, according to *Werner*, excludes mineral waters from his system of mineralogy, "because," says he, "water being very rarely found in a state of extreme purity, the solution of any metallic substance in this fluid is an accident only which does not entitle it to any peculiar place."

Mr. N. then passes to the *division* of mineralogy, which, like *Werner* also, he makes to consist of *five* parts. Having defined each of these parts, he discusses the different methods of classification which have been adopted by naturalists to the present time. He combats the project formed by some authors, of classing mineral substances according to their chemical properties, which he represents not only as unnatural, but as impossible in the execution. He has recourse to a number of arguments, and to the authority of some of the most eminent writers, to show that the exterior characters are sufficient to establish a classification of fossils, and to make them known.

The preliminary discourse is followed by the *Oryctografia*, which is divided into *two* parts; in the former of which are given the exterior characters of fossils, and in the latter their classification. The history of the first class, which comprises the earths and stones, completes this volume.

It was not without astonishment that we saw the diamond form the first species of the first genus.

After the experiments made on the combustibility of the diamond, and more especially after those by *Lavoisier*, every doubt on that head seemed to have been removed. Mr. N. does not, however, give credit to those experiments, but wishes to see them repeated. We, on the contrary, are under the necessity of saying, that the arguments adduced by him to prove the incombustibility of the diamond, are contradicted by well-known facts.

GERMANY.

GERMANY.

ART. 71. *Novum Testamentum, Græce. Recognovit atque inferiori lectionum varietatis et argumentorum notationes subjunxit* Ge. Christian Knappius. Halle, 1797; XLVIII. and 773 pp. in small 8vo.

In this edition of the New Testament, the author has admitted into the text not only those readings which were considered by *Griesbach* to be of *undoubted* authority (*indubie*) but likewise some others which he himself regarded as such, without distinguishing either of them, as we think he ought still to have done, by a difference in the size of the letters. Such words also as it might, on the same grounds, be thought right to exclude from the text, as not originally belonging to it, are here very properly enclosed in brackets, partly simple and of the common kind, and partly formed on purpose for this edition.

The class of probable readings, which, in his judgment, have much in their favour, but to which reasonable objections may, however, be urged, are divided by Mr. Kn. into two degrees. Those which he looks upon to be the most probable, are marked with a star. To all of them the word *alii* is prefixed, to distinguish them from the rest of these lections, which are, in reality, those in which the exegetical student is chiefly interested; the number might, we conceive, have been considerably increased, more particularly in the former parts of the N. T. In *Matthæw*, for instance, there are only *five* pointed out here, which produce any material alteration in the sense, as viii, 28, ἤρασαν αἱ Γαδαρηνæ; ix, 18, εἰς αὐτὸν αἱ ἐπιστάντες; x, 10, παῖδες αἱ ψαῖδες; xiii, 17, τί με ἐρώτας περὶ τοῦ ἀγῶνος; εἰς ἐγὼ ὁ ἀγῶν; xxvii, 16, 17, αἱ Ἰουδαὶ Βαραββαν.

Great attention has been paid to typographical and grammatical accuracy, to the accents, and to the punctuation, which differs in this edition from those of *Leusden*, or *Mosheim*, in more than 300 places. Very useful summaries are likewise added under the text, from which we may often collect the ideas of the editor with respect to the interpretation of certain passages; as, for examples, 1 John v. 6, 13, "*Nam quæ à Messia expectata sunt præstitit Jesus, Nempe et baptismum instituit, et profuso sanguine suo nos expiavit. Accedit ipsius Dei de illo testantis auctoritas.*" The words from *ἐν τῷ νεκρῷ* τὸ ἐν τῇ γῇ, are suffered to remain, though enclosed within brackets, in the text. Perhaps the difficulty attending this passage might, in some degree, be removed by a double change in the punctuation: Οὗτος (sc. ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ Θεοῦ) ἐστὶ ὁ αὐτὸς δι' ὕδατος καὶ αἵματος. "Ἰησοῦς (sc. ἐστὶν) ὁ Χριστός;"—οὐκ ἐν τῇ κ. λ. that is, "*He is (namely, the Son of God) is (no longer ὁ ἐρχόμενος but) he who is actually come, both by his baptism and by his death. Jesus is the Messiah! not only in his baptism, but likewise in his violent death* (which, long before the time of the Cerinthians, had been made an objection to him in that capacity, Luke xxiv, 21; 1 Cor. i, 18, 23). In the following, the seventh verse, the *ἐν* evidently requires an apostrophe, which it cannot have till the ninth verse. The eighth must therefore, we imagine, end with a colon, instead of a full point in the sixth; ὁ αὐτὸς is the subject of the sentence. According to St. John's manner in such sentences, John i, 1, iv. 24, the subject often stands last, or after the verb.

Jens ALL.

ART.

ART. 72. *Ueber Russlands Handel, von W. C. Fricbe.—Memoirs on the Commerce of Russia, &c. by W. C. Fricbe. Vol II. in 8vo. Gotha, 1797.*

To inform ourselves of the state of Russia, we may likewise read the work intituled *Journal von und für Rußland (Journal of and for Russia)* published at Petersburg, by J. H. Basse. The third year contains a description by Pallas, of the Taurica, an account of the government of Tarhow, together with some memoirs on those of Simbirsk and of Nischgorod, in which is situate the city of Nowgorod; on the nomad Calmucks of Astracan; on the books in the Mogul language which are found in the library of the academy of Petersburg. This last memoir is written by Mr. Jaehrig, who lived ten years among the Moguls, and who has left other memoirs on the religion of Bramah, particularly as it is now observed in Thibet.

Ibid.

ART. 73. *Biblische Encyclopedie, oder exegetisches Wörterbuch über die sämtlichen Wissenschaften des Auslegers, nach den Bedürfnissen jetziger Zeit. Durch eine Gesellschaft von Gelehrten.—Biblical Encyclopedia, adapted to the present Times; by a Society of learned Men. Vol. III. M—R. 557 pp. in 1. 4to. Gotha.*

In this new volume of a valuable and generally esteemed Biblical Dictionary, are contained 478 articles. Of these, 210 chiefly of a grammatical, critical, rhetorical, and geographical nature, are contributed by Mr. L. One hundred and ten articles belonging to antiquities, mythology, the arts, and natural history, have the signature H^{ft}. The historical, genealogical, biographical, and archæological articles, by R. are 150, and to 8 no signature is added. Of these 478 articles, there are 95 which are not to be found in Hezel's *Reallexicon*.
Jena ALZ.

ART. 74. 1. Sam. Frid. Nathan. Mori—*super Hermeneutica Novi Testamenti Acroasis Academica. Editioni aptavit, præfatione et additamentis instruxit, Henr. Carol. Abr. Eichstädt, Philos. Doctor et Prof. extraord. in Academ. Lipsiensis (now Philos. Prof. ordinarij in Acad. Jenensi. Leipzig, 1797; Pref. 68; the rest 336 pp. in 1. 8vo.*

ART. 75. 2. D. Sam. Frid. Nath. Mori—*Prælectiones exegeticae in tres Joannis epistolæ, cum nova earundem paraphrasi latina—published by C. A. Hempel, of Leuchstädt. Leipzig. 7 Sheets 8vo.*

In the first of the articles we are presented with an excellent commentary on *Ernesti's* well-known introductory work on the same subject, proceeding only in this volume to Sect. II, c. 5, of that book; with considerable additions and improvements by the editor. The second article contains a free Latin Version of the Text of the Epistles of St. John, as it was dictated by the author in his Prælections, together with his Observations on it, and two *Excursus*; one on the reading ἡμῶν or κατὰ ἡμῶν, in c. iv, 3; and the other on 1 John v, 7, 8.

Ibid.

ART.

ART. 76. *Tabulae anatomicae quas ad illustrandam humani corporis fabricam collegit et curavit. Jost. Christ. Loder, in academia quae Jenae est anat. et chirurg. professor.*

This work is distributed in *livraisons* at Weimar; and in London, by Remnant. There have already appeared of it three *fasciculi*, which comprise osteology, syndesmology, and myology. We take this opportunity of bearing testimony to the accuracy of the designs, and to the beauty of the execution. *Ibid.*

ART. 77. *Vegetabilia in Hercyniae subterraneis collecta, iconibus et observationibus illustrata; auctore Georg. Franc. Hoffmann. In folio, with six plates. First livraison.*

There will be four *livraisons* of this work, which we think it enough merely to announce, the name and character of the author being already sufficiently known to the botanical student. *Ibid.*

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The ribaldry of *Ruficus* does not deserve an answer. We can certainly judge as well as he, to say the least, what is nonsense and what is not, and his letter gives us occasion. To most of his queries we should give, if we replied at all, a most hearty and conscientious negative.

In answer to *Censorinus*, and other enquirers, we decisively reply, that the Editors of this Review are not connected with any other periodical publication whatsoever.

It is with some regret we inform our correspondent at *Leipsic*, that the whole of the manuscript of Plutarch has not yet been received at Oxford from Professor Wytttenbach.

LITERARY INTELLIGENCE.

Dr. Moodie, of Bath, who was professionally employed with his Majesty's forces in India, during the late war, is preparing for the press an *History of the Military and Political Affairs of the British Nation in Hindoostan*, from the commencement of the war in 1756, to the conclusion of the peace in 1784.

The *Rev. Widen Butler*, Sen. of Chelsea, is drawing up *Memoirs of Dr. Hildesley*, Bishop of Soder and Man, under whose care the Mark's Version of the Holy Scriptures was completed. They will soon appear, in one volume octavo.

Considerable progress is made in a *History of the Town of Reading*, by a gentleman eminently qualified for the undertaking.

We hear also of a translation of *Maximus Tyrius*, said to be in some forwardness.

ERRATA.

In our Review for July, p. 46, l. last but three, for *Candan*, r. *Candact*.

p. 79, l. nine from bottom, for *six thousand*,
s. *six hundred thousand*.

T H E

BRITISH CRITIC,

For SEPTEMBER, 1798.

Se non sai
Credi di non saper, e credi a' savi. Tasso.
What you do not know,
Believe you know not, and consent to learn.

ART. I. *Memoirs of the Life and Administration of Sir Robert Walpole, Earl of Orford. With original Correspondence, and authentic Papers, never before published. In Three Volumes. By William Coxe, M. A. F. R. S. F. A. S. Rector of Berneſten.* 4to. 764, 703, and 622 pp. 8l. 15s. Cadell and Davies. 1798.

THE life of a great minister, long in power, involves of necessity the most important part of the history of his country, at the same period; and the Memoirs of Sir Robert Walpole are well calculated to fill up a large space in the history of England since the Revolution, the whole of which has hitherto received but little illustration from able or impartial writers. It was therefore a pleasing circumstance to persons attached to this branch of study, to learn that the present work was undertaken by Mr. Coxe, an author advantageously known already by the former productions of his pen. The long opposition with which Sir R. Walpole contended, and by which he was finally overpowered; the virulence of many among his adversaries; and the unprincipled malevolence of a few, by producing innumerable speeches and writings replete

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with the most violent hostility, have exposed his administration in particular to the grossest misrepresentation; under the clamour of which, his real merits, and the services he actually rendered to his country, are too frequently forgotten. In the narrative of a writer who makes him the hero of his work, if we generally see, as may be expected, the most favourable aspect of the person represented, we yet obtain a likeness; and, with a moderate knowledge of general nature, can guess not inaccurately at the truth, between the deformities of the caricatures, and the favourable touches of the portrait.

As the author, in his Preface, explains very clearly the origin of the present publication, we cannot better give that information than by using his words.

“ Nine years have elapsed since I undertook to write *the Historical and Political State of Europe*; the plan of which was printed, and submitted to the public. In the prosecution of that work, I obtained access to various collections of original papers, particularly those of the Earls of Hardwicke, Harrington, and Peterborough, and of Sir Benjamin Keene. It was in such forwardness, that the histories of Spain, Portugal, Austria, the German constitution, Russia, and part of Prussia and Sweden, were already prepared for the press; I had also sketched the histories of the Italian states, Holland, and France: several maps were finished. Finding it impossible to obtain in England sufficient information respecting foreign countries, I visited Germany in 1794, with a view to obtain an accurate knowledge of recent events.

“ On my return I went to Wolterton, for the purpose of inspecting the papers of Horatio Lord Walpole, father of the present Lord Walpole, whose interesting correspondence during his embassies in France and Holland, were of the utmost importance to my undertaking. I employed several months in perusing and arranging these papers. In the course of this occupation, I traced motives of action unknown to historians, which placed in a new light the foreign and domestic transactions of the cabinet. I also derived, from the conversation of Lord and Lady Walpole, many facts and anecdotes which elucidated the events adverted to in the papers.

“ The progress of the French revolution, and the uncertain position of Europe, compelled me, notwithstanding the expence, and loss of time and labour, to suspend my original design, and to defer the completion of *the Historical and Political State* till the return of more quiet and favourable times.

“ With the sanction of Lord Walpole I proposed, therefore, to give to the public a selection of his father's papers. In the course of this undertaking, I met with several letters and papers of Sir Robert Walpole, which made me solicitous to obtain further information concerning his character and administration. On my arrival in London, I had frequent conversations with the late Earl of Orford, who related many anecdotes of his father, which led to further inquiries. It now became a part of my plan, to blend in the narrative as many

particulars relating to Sir Robert Walpole as could be authenticated, and to insert in the correspondence as many of his letters as I could obtain.

" This design was promoted by the kindness of Lord Orford, who imparted to me all his father's papers which remained in his possession, and permitted me to use them at my discretion, without the smallest controul.

" The connection and friendship which, for a long period, had subsisted between Sir Robert Walpole and his brother-in-law, Charles Viscount Townshend, naturally suggested that the Townshend papers must afford considerable information. The acquisition of these important documents led to the discovery and communication of others, particularly in the *Hardwicke, Grantham, Waldegrave, and Poyntz* collections:

" With these sources of information the work gradually expanded; and Sir Robert Walpole from being a secondary became the principal object. I therefore interrupted the impression of Lord Walpole's correspondence, and postponed that publication. I determined to give to the world the *Memoirs of the Life and Administration of Sir Robert Walpole*, drawn from these copious and original sources; and to illustrate, by interesting and authentic documents, the transactions of the busy and eventful period, in which that minister acted so conspicuous a part." Pref. p. xv, &c.

Thus the present work has arisen, we see, out of two which are for a time suspended, but may hereafter be expected. The catalogue of authorities which is then subjoined in the Preface, is ample, curious, and satisfactory. Mr. C. begins with printed information; and in this class first adverts to Smollette and Belsham, of whom he does not speak in very favourable terms.

" Though this source of intelligence is open to every writer, and an omission to consult and compare the advocates on both sides of the question indicates either negligence or want of candour, yet *Smollette* and *Belsham*, in their accounts of the times, have betrayed these faults in the highest degree. Dazzled by the eloquence of Pultney, seduced by the sophistry of Bolingbroke, or deluded by the speciousness of Chesterfield, they appear to have formed their opinions without comparison, to have stigmatized the whole administration of Sir Robert Walpole as an uniform mass of corruption and depravity, as a gloomy period, during which not a single ray of light gleams through the impenetrable darkness. Though I have occasionally noticed the misrepresentations of these writers, yet as Smollett quotes no authorities, and appears *never* to have consulted the journals, and either partially or superficially to have perused the parliamentary debates; and as Belsham is, in general, a mere copyist of Smollett as to facts, though he differs from him in speculations, I have not relied on either as an authority." P. xviii.

This statement, so very adverse to the credit of Mr. Belsham as an historian, has called forth an answer from that author, which we shall take occasion to consider. In the mean time, we shall lay before our readers, from different parts of these Memoirs, some of the instances in which Mr. Coxe directly specifies the most glaring defects both of his history and that of Smollett. In his account of his authorities, he thus proceeds,

" The History of England I have principally consulted is the continuation of Rapin, published under the name of Tindal, but principally written by Dr. Birch. His papers in the Museum, and in the Hardwicke collection, which I have examined with scrupulous attention, and various other documents which were submitted to his inspection, and to which I have had access, prove great accuracy of research, judgment in selection, and fidelity in narration. He derived considerable assistance from persons of political eminence, particularly the late Lord Walpole, the late Earl of Hardwicke, and the Honourable Charles Yorke*. Birch was a staunch whig, but his political opinions have never led him to forget his duty as an historian. He has not gabled or falsified debates, or misstated facts; he has not wantonly reduced characters, or scrimoniously reviled individuals, because they espoused the cause which he disapproved; but in his whole work, whether he praises or blames, there is a manly integrity and candid temperance, which must recommend him to the discerning reader." *Ibid.*

Among these printed authorities are mentioned *Chandler's Parliamentary Proceedings*, the name of which often appears in the notes. Their accuracy is confirmed by several strong reasons; the most important is this.

" 2. There are among the Walpole and Oxford papers minutes of Sir Robert Walpole's speeches, and occasional notes taken by him in the House of Commons, of those of other members. In comparing these minutes and notes with the speeches in *Chandler*, I generally find the leading expressions preserved in the debates; which proves the authenticity of those particular speeches, and furnishes a strong presumption in favour of the rest." P. xxi.

Of the speeches drawn up by Dr. Johnson for the *Gentleman's Magazine*, we are here assured, contrary to the assertion

* " The account of the partition treaty was written by the late Earl of Hardwicke. The account of Lord Somers's argument in *Barker's* case, was written by his great nephew, the late Mr. C. Yorke. I can also trace numerous communications by Horace Walpole, though they cannot be so easily specified." Here is a very remarkable erratum, not noticed in the list, nor easily detected by the common reader. It should be, " in the *Barker's* case," not *Barker's*. *Rev.*

of some of his biographers, that " Johnson constantly received notes and heads of the speeches from persons employed by Cave, and particularly from Guthrie. The Bishop of Salisbury recollects to have seen several of these notes which Guthrie communicated to him on the very day on which he obtained them, which were regularly transmitted to Johnson, and formed the basis of his orations."

Mr. Coxe then proceeds to give a copious account of his *Oral and Manuscript Information*, which we may abridge in the following manner. *Walpole papers.* With many interesting anecdotes and explanations given by Lord Walpole, which he had from his father. *Orford papers.* These, though far from entire, are said to be important, and, as well as many anecdotes, were communicated by the late Lord Orford. *Townsend papers;* communicated by Lord Townsend. *Hardwicke, Sydney, Waldgrave, and Harrington papers.* *Grantham papers;* being those of Sir Thomas Robinson, first Lord Grantham, communicated by Lady Grantham. *Poyntz, Keene, Campbell, and Devonshire papers.* The papers of the Rev. Henry Etough, Rector of Therfield, Hertfordshire, containing a valuable mass of intelligence, obtained from the minister himself, from his brother, and Mr. Scrope, secretary to the treasury; besides correspondence. *Weston, Onslow, Ayle, Stanhope, Middleton, Egremont, Pultney, and Melcomb papers.* Of each of these sources some account is given, showing what kind of information it supplied; the whole making undoubtedly a very extensive and valuable collection of original authorities.

The Memoirs are divided into eight periods; corresponding to which, the papers printed in the second and third volume are divided into a similar number, for facility of reference. They comprehend a term of 69 years; from the birth of Sir Robert Walpole in 1676, to his death in 1745*. On what considerations the divisions of the period was made, does not appear to the reader; for they neither divide the time nor the correspondence with any degree of equality, nor do they all terminate at any remarkable epoch. The accession of a new sovereign forms indeed a natural break in three of the instances, but the periods that occur within a reign are not always marked by any peculiar propriety.

* It is shown in a note at p. 3, that there has been much confusion with regard to the age of Sir Robert. But the dispute is settled by a register kept by his mother, and communicated to Mr. Coxe, in which the exactly records the birth of every child, in all nineteen.

The two mottoes, printed at the back of the title, seem both intended to defend the pacific system of Sir Robert. In his praises on this subject, considering the circumstances of Europe during his administration, we very cordially unite; but we cannot for that reason approve the first motto. It is printed as prose, "*Omnia prius experiri verbis quam armis sapientem decet.*" But Terence, from whom it is quoted, wrote it as verse, thus,

Omnia prius experiri quam armis sapientem decet,

or *Arma*, as Bentley contends it should be, both for the sense and the measure. If *armis* remains, it is a licence, for which the rhetoricians are to account. But the insertion of *verbis*, besides being an interpolation, destroys all hope of versification, and yet worse, annihilates the sense. For the sentence means, that every expedient should be tried before we have recourse to arms; but to try by *words* only is to limit the attempt to one species of experiment, and therefore not only contradicts the meaning of the author, but destroys the comprehensiveness, and, in some degree, the propriety of the quotation. The Provost, Fellows, and Scholars of King's, to whom the opposite page is, with very honourable feeling, inscribed, certainly cannot approve this violence offered to a classical author, who, though more revered at Westminster than Eton, is not without the pale of their critical protection. *Deleatur ergo verbis*, in cæteris quotquot erunt Edd.

We do not object to this quotation as being taken from the speech of a ridiculous character; because the ridicule intended by the author, was undoubtedly that of making a foolish man absurdly and pompously apply a sentence really wise.

From our making this halt, *in limine*, let it not be supposed that our intention is to cavil. That a work so extensive is not without blemishes, must very naturally be supposed; and though some of these have fallen under our observation, we neither think them so numerous as to injure the work, nor so important as to disgrace the author. But having mentioned the subject of blemishes, we will here point out a few remarkable errata, which have escaped the eye which collected those at the beginning and end of the first volume. In p. 315, for *Scylla* read *Sylla*; and, in the same sentence, *Alberonis* and *Mariusjes*, should be written without any elision; as it is not the custom of our language to put the apostrophe, except to genitive cases. In p. 673, we have *Albion Hall*, for *Alban Hall*, in Oxford; and, in 708, the borough of *Breackley*, is put for *Brackley*, in Northamptonshire. An omission very important to the reader is corrected in the list of errata, at p. 82, where we are told, that

that the Baroness Schulenburg was created "Marchioness of Dungannon, and Dutchess of Munster, in the kingdom of Ireland;" without which insertion, the mention of the Dutchess of Munster a few pages afterwards, would be an enigma. But, on the same subject, there is still an omission in the narrative. For we are told, in p. 84, that the King's mistresses and favourites aspired to the peerage; but that "to these pretensions which the conduct of William had sanctioned, the act of settlement presented an insuperable barrier;" forbidding any foreigners to be created Peers of Great-Britain. "Interest," the author proceeds, "soon enabled them to discover, that the regulations of that act did not extend to Ireland; the Baroness of Schulenburg was gratified with the title of Dutchess of Munster, and the Irish establishment loaded with pensions." This was in 1716: and in 1718, we are told (p. 82) she was made a Peeress of Great-Britain, by the title of Baroness of Glastonbury, Countess of Feverham, and Dutchess of Kendal;" but how the impediment raised by the act of settlement was removed, and what part the Ministers or Walpole took in it, we are not here informed.

The style of these Memoirs in general is equable and clear: seldom rising to peculiar elegance, but still more rarely deviating into impropriety. Some expressions which are singular, and some incorrect, will probably discover themselves on subsequent revision, or will be pointed out by friends. We shall for the present dismiss the subject.

We shall now, as we promised, give some of the instances in which Mr. Coxe censures the partiality of Smollett, and his successor Mr. Belsham. On the debate upon the repeal of the Septennial Bill, March 13, 1734, he has these remarks.

"The speech of Sir William Wyndham on this occasion (for the repeal) is triumphantly quoted by the modern writers, who uniformly stigmatize the Walpole administration, as a masterpiece of eloquence and energy; they state his arguments as unanswerable. At the same time, these partial reporters never advert to the reply of Sir Robert Walpole, but leave the reader to suppose that scarcely any answer was made, and that the whole strength of the argument lay on the side of opposition. To abridge or detail printed debates, without illustrating them by any new documents, is not the general purport of this work. But on this occasion, where there has been such a willful suppression of the argument on one side, and such an affected display of the reasoning on the other, it will be almost as great a novelty to give the speech of the minister, as if it had never been in print. I have therefore inserted the Philippic of Sir William Wyndham, and Walpole's reply, verbatim, from contemporary narratives." P. 412.

The note subjoined to this passage more particularly specifies the faults of the historians.

"Smollett

" Smollett in recording this transaction, has characterized Sir William Wyndham, by saying, that " his speech spoke him the unrivalled orator, the uncorrupted Briton, and the unshaken patriot." He gives only that part of the speech which relates to the character of Walpole, and concludes, " Notwithstanding the most warm, the most nervous, the most pathetic remonstrances in favour of the motion, *the question was put, and it was suppressed by mere dint of numbers.*" Vol. ii, p. 495. If Smollett means any thing by this relation, it must be that no reply was made to the argument of his admired orator, but that the business was got rid of by the cry of Question! Question! Belsham has thus related the transaction. " The minister having defied the opposition to adduce a single instance in which the interests of the nation had been injured by the operation of this bill, or by any undue exercise of the royal prerogative connected with it, Sir William Wyndham observed," &c. After quoting Sir William Wyndham's speech, he adds, without taking the smallest notice of Sir Robert Walpole's reply, " Notwithstanding the admiration excited by this sudden burst of eloquence, and the ability with which the motion of appeal was supported by various other speakers, it was negatived on the division, though not by the accustomed ministerial majority, the numbers being 247 against 184."

The next instance we shall introduce occurs in the account of Sir John Barnard's motion for the abolition of taxes, in 1737. After giving the speech of Walpole, and Sir John's reply, Mr. Coxe subjoins in a note.

" I have dwelt thus particularly on the consideration of Sir John Barnard's scheme, because the accounts given by most writers who have fallen under my observation, are superficial and inaccurate. Even Tindal is unusually short and barren of information (vol. xx, p. 348) Smollett, excepting a good abstract of Sir John Barnard's speech, which I have adopted in the text, is extremely deficient. He says it produced other debates, and was at last *postponed* by dint of ministerial influence. The falsity of this account is evident. Belsham observes, " a bill was, however, ordered upon the basis of Winington's proposition, which being in the sequel warmly attacked, and *faintly defended, was finally postponed to a distant day, by a motion of the minister.*" In this short account there are three errors. It was warmly attacked, but by no means *faintly defended*. It was not finally *postponed to a distant day*, but the second reading was only put off for seven days; and it was then *negatived*, but not on the motion of the minister." P. 508.

In the next instance, which is the debate on the reduction of the army, Mr. Coxe gives, in a note, the parallel passages from the two historians in question, to show " how Smollett has misrepresented the debate, and how carelessly Mr. Belsham has copied his narrative, and added his own errors," (p. 568.) The debate on the Austrian subsidy, in consequence of the King's Speech in 1743, is stated to be altogether omitted by both

those

these historians. * These corrections are important; and prove that the present writer did not make the objections in his Preface without just grounds. As the question of the Septennial Bill is the first mentioned in these passages, and as it is one to which party writers are continually recurring, we shall conclude this part of our critique by the narrative of its origin as related by the present author.

"During this interval, the Septennial Bill was brought into Parliament. Although Walpole was not able to give this measure his support in the House of Commons, yet, as it had been previously arranged with his concurrence, and as he also constantly opposed the repeal, it has always been justly considered an act of his administration.

"This memorable bill, which is to be considered as the bulwark of our civil and religious liberties, because it effectually supported the House of Brunswick on the throne, was undoubtedly one of the most daring uses, or, according to the representations of its opponents, abuses of parliamentary power, that ever was committed since the Revolution: for, it not only lengthened the duration of future parliaments, but the members who had been elected only for three years, prolonged, on their own authority, the terms of their continuance for four years more. The great body of the Whigs, influenced by these considerations, were, at the first proposition, averse to the measure, and did not agree to give their assistance in support of it, till mature deliberation had convinced them of its necessity. During the debates which took place on this occasion, the arguments of opposition and defence, were not unequal to the importance and dignity of the subjects. We, who live at this distance of time, without being heated by the warmth of party, without sufficiently considering the temper and state of the nation, and without weighing the peculiar circumstances which occasioned its introduction, must confess that in theory the arguments of those who opposed it are the most specious and convincing; but if we recur to the events of the times, and the state of the country, we must applaud the wisdom of those who sacrificed speculation to practice. It is the remark of a judicious author*, 'that the act of septennial parliaments was passed, when the kingdom was threatened with an immediate invasion, when a rebellion had but just been quelled, and when the peace and safety of the nation depended on the use of this power by parliament. Such was the opinion of the people at that time, and the act met with general approbation, from the general conviction of its necessity.'

"That the necessity must have been great and evident, appears from the consideration, that it was supported by men of the first rank, independence, and probity in the kingdom; that in the House of Lords, where it was proposed by the Duke of Devonshire, there were only 36 voices against it, and that, on being sent to the House of Commons,

* Adams (the American President) in his Letter against Paine.

there was a majority of 264 against 121. But whatever opinion might be formed of the justice of the right exercised by Parliament, in repealing the triennial bill, and substituting septennial parliaments, yet it can scarcely be contested that it has in effect been highly advantageous to the well-being of the legislature, and to the real interests of the nation. The Speaker, Onslow, who was no ill judge of parliamentary proceedings, was frequently heard to declare, that the passing of the septennial bill formed the era of the emancipation of the British House of Commons from its former dependence on the crown, and the House of Lords*. From that period it has risen in consequence and strength.

"We who live to enjoy the benefits of an act, which has greatly contributed to set bounds to faction, which has relieved us from the mischievous effects of too frequent elections, and from the interference of foreign powers; which has given permanency and independence to our councils, and prevented those frequent changes of men and measures, which left us open to every fluctuation of public sentiment, to every impulse of craft and artifice, *we* ought not too severely to scrutinize the arguments which were used in support of a measure recommended by the necessity of the times, and which subsequent experience has demonstrated to be no less beneficial and prudent, than bold and decisive. The immediate effect is best ascertained by the unceasing clamours of a desperate faction, whose hopes were at once destroyed by a step which placed at a great distance the chance of influencing the public mind, and producing dangerous ferments by the accustomed means of popular delusion. History enables us to ascertain its more remote consequences; and whoever fairly considers the permanence of peace, the energy of war, and amelioration of jurisprudence which have resulted to the nation; the wisdom of counsel, boldness of eloquence, and increase of importance, which have distinguished the Commons since the period of its formation, must acknowledge that many of the most inestimable benefits of our constitution are to be attributed to this measure, which originally appeared to invade its first principles. It is to be hoped, that there are few persons who would desire to replunge the nation into that feverish state which attends frequent elections in cities and counties, and to revive that perpetual enmity which must arise from the frequent agitation of contradictory interests, and the investigation of claims which can hardly be once decided before they are again contested." P. 74.

These reflections are sound, able, and judicious, and in general well expressed. In the last sentence only there appears a little obscurity; it should be rather, "and the investigation of claims which, under the triennial system, could hardly be once decided, before they would be again contested." The author subjoins the opinion of the great Lord Somers, communicated to him by Lord Sydney and Charles Townshend, Esquire, who frequently heard the anecdote related by their father.

* Communicated by Sir George Colebrook.

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“ Although a question like this cannot be decided by the opinion of any individual, yet surely the judgment of Lord Somers, the constant friend of liberty, and the oracle of the revolution, is intitled to some respect, and the time and manner of giving it render it peculiarly interesting. While the bill was in agitation, Dr. Freind, the celebrated physician, called on Lord Townshend, and informed him that Lord Somers was at that moment restored to the full possession of his faculties by a fit of the gout, which suspended the effect of his paralytic complaint. Townshend immediately waited on Lord Somers, who as soon as he came into the room embraced him and said, ‘ I have just heard of the work in which you are engaged, and congratulate you upon it: I never approved the triennial bill, and always considered it in effect, the reverse of what it was intended. You have my hearty approbation in this business, and I think it will be the greatest support possible to the liberty of the country.’ ”

Different persons, according to their political prejudices, will probably give more or less weight to this declaration of a great patriot, during a temporary recovery of his faculties; yet, testified as the anecdote is, we see no just reason for suspecting any kind of error or misrepresentation. We cannot at present allow ourselves to proceed further in the examination of this work, which is of too great magnitude to be so briefly dismissed. We purpose therefore to resume the consideration of it at a subsequent opportunity.

(To be continued.)

ART. II. *The Study and Practice of the Law, considered in their various Relations to Society. In a Series of Letters. By a Member of Lincoln's-Inn. 8vo. 6s. Cadell and Davies. 1798.*

THE author of these letters has happily chosen his subject, and has selected not unaptly the subordinate topics into which he distributes his work. But he is unfortunately misled by a very false taste. He fancies, in common with many others, that to write fluently is to write finely, and that a collection of sounding periods must constitute a valuable book. Hence, whether he is to discuss, explain, or enforce, he produces a quantity of prolix and verbose declamation, which is disgusting and frigid. Had he compressed his book into half its present size, and told plain truths in a simple manner, he might possibly have added something to the information usually furnished to every young man, when he enters upon the study of the law. We say *possibly*, because

because there are many points of instruction in which we ought to arraign his judgment, as we have already condemned his taste. But he has lost even this chance for applause, in a vain pursuit of an object he is doomed not to overtake. He labours to be eloquent, and never attains it. If eloquence were to have been visible any where in the book, it must have naturally burst forth in the celebration of eloquence itself. When treating of that divine talent which is the very life's breath of a great advocate, the thoughts and language would naturally rise with the subject, and the writer glow and kindle with enthusiastic sympathy, as he poured forth its praises. Had the author even witheld to feign this rapture which he could not feel, he might have saved appearances, by transcribing the thoughts of others with moderation and prudence. But unluckily, he was determined to write from himself, and his opinions upon this subject are peculiarly tasteless, vitiated, and nonsensical. He runs on in a strain nearly similar to the following, for upwards of seventy pages.

"In forming our ideas of the nature of eloquence, we have almost uniformly been apt to consider it as a science whose chief end has been to inflame the imagination and arouse the passions of men; and the portion of judgment which we have allowed to be exercised in it, we have ever been accustomed to consider only in a secondary light: and this view is a very natural consequence of the course which the studies of most men have taken in this particular science, in which the Greeks and the Romans appear to have furnished us with our only models.

"But however highly we may think, whether from conviction or from the influence of general opinion, of the modes of eloquence that were adopted by the most renowned of the ancient orators, still it must be confessed, that from the different state of mens' minds, many of these modes have become entirely useless, and remain only as monuments of the extraordinary beauties of composition, and of its wonderful force and fascination over the human mind; but because from this circumstance the Grecian and Roman orators are in a great measure set apart from our imitation, must we be brought to think ourselves in the unhappy condition of men who must bid adieu to the most delightful effusions of manly science, or at least be content with a most miserable inferiority?

"Whence is it that the orations which ages ago were wont to have the most surprising effect over the passions of men who were far from being ignorant or base, would now not be endured if introduced for the same purpose? Is it because we have lost all taste for what is refined and elegant? Is it because we are so cold that our bosoms are wrapt in an inertia that defies every attempt to animate them? that they are insensible to every emotion of delight? I can hardly conceive this. I rather think that after making allowance for the influence of climate, of character, and of government, we shall be able to account for this by considering that there is a fashion or custom that bears
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a mighty sway, even in the demonstrations of genius and of scientific knowledge; and which if it had taken a different turn, might have caused the palm to be given to speakers who had a nobler aim before them, than a dominion over the imagination; but the people came together with one general intention to be influenced by a beautiful construction of sentences, and an artful display of figures, he therefore who ever with the greatest force had directed those powers (*what powers?*) to convince the judgment, might have fought in vain for support or applause," &c.

This is we believe the first writer who has commenced his discourse upon eloquence, by depreciating the invaluable models of oratory furnished by Greece and Rome. From his remark that the judgment displayed in their divine discourses, is to be considered only in a secondary light, we are absolutely certain that he has not read a single page of Cicero, and that he is not merely ignorant of every line in Demosthenes, but has not so much as heard him talked of by an intelligent schoolmaster. He says, however, that the "Greek and Roman orators are in a great measure set apart from our imitation." If this be so, what monument of human excellence remains which a great mind aspiring to fame can stoop to imitate? The resemblance to be desired will not be created by a mean and servile copy of all that they have written. There are topics of persuasion, and sources of illustration, which the gradual mutations in society have rendered stale and unavailing. Every age brings something to dislike or overlook in our predecessors, as our prejudices alter, as science enlarges our views, and as new customs supersede the old. But there are bursts of truth and nature, and particularly in the writings of these great men, which are addressed not to a particular age or country, but to the hopes, and the cares, and the business of man wherever he intermingles with his species. The grand springs of human action, and the solid foundations of wise counsel, have remained the same from the times of Philip and of Cæsar to the present period. The main stores of ancient eloquence still continue sound and serviceable, and fit for modern use. It is from these that we may cull what is suited to our purpose. It is where the orator raises his voice to the whole world that he is to be copied; and those who wish to live to posterity, must imitate the excellence by which our forefathers have lived to us. Instead of condemning the ancient orators of Greece and Rome as unfit for imitation, this author should have advised the young student to turn these great examples in his head both by day and by night. To resort to them as the only places where he can learn the "powers of speech to stir mens' blood"; to study them

them as models from whence he may derive the beauties of arrangement, narration, and transition; the way to demonstrate, to refute, to reprove, to exhort, and applaud.

So far is it from being true, that the ancient orators addressed themselves exclusively to the passions, and neglected to appeal to the judgment by means of sound argument, that if a characteristic superiority can be pointed out where all is perfect, it is to be found in the art; and variety, and cogency of their reasoning. We do not mean to detract from the abundant exercise of this faculty in his great Roman rival, when we say, that the remark is emphatically true of Demosthenes.

But, forsooth, "there is a fashion or custom that bears a mighty sway, even in the demonstrations of genius and of scientific knowledge." So far as a meaning can be extracted from this sentence, it is, that the methods of deducing and explaining truth depend, like a coat or head-dress, upon fashion and custom. Yet if there be an incontrovertible truth in science, it is the direct converse of this proposition. With the exception of the wonderful discoveries in the numerical part of mathematics, the general modes of demonstration have remained as immutable, both in moral and physical science, since the first records of literature, as the truths which they proved. In the essential principles of demonstration, there is no difference between the writings of Euclid, Archimedes, and Proclus, and those of Kepler and Newton; between the orations of Demosthenes or Cicero, and the speeches of Mr. Burke or Mr. Pitt. But the present author has supplied us with a wonderful reason for this corruption and false taste among the ancient orators, which, if it had not existed, would have "caused the palm to be given to speakers who had a nobler aim before them than a dominion over the imagination." That is, "the people came together with one general intention to be influenced by a beautiful construction of sentences, and artful display of figures." Whatever the fact might be, as to the causes by which their votes were finally influenced, is it not ridiculous to suppose that an assembly ever did or could exist, who, when their dearest interests were in doubt, met to consult upon them with the previous resolution of disregarding all sound arguments, and of being swayed alone by figures and by words. Can the human imagination conceive, that when Philip was at Elatea, and Demosthenes addressed the Athenians; or when the Roman senate deliberated upon the conspiracy of Cataline, unfolded by Cicero, those assemblies looked to nothing more than the majestic images and mellifluous periods of the orators? Yet, according to this adviser of law students, the Grecian people met to hear the
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grave and weighty speeches of Lyfias, of Pericles, of Æſchines, and Demosthenes; and the Romans those of Antonius, of Crassus, of Cæsar, and of Tully, as a set of rustics would assemble to judge the merit of ringing of bells in their parish church; predetermined to decide from the sweetness of their tongues, and the volubility of their sounds, and not to be guided by those matured counsels which were best calculated to promote the common good.

In perusing this book it is very observable, that while the author wishes to confine all modern eloquence to sound and sober argument, he has slighted that advice which he gives to others. It is obvious from the style and manner of every page in this work, that he has read and admired Mr. Burke. But, like the cold and unfortunate frog, he is destroyed by a luckless emulation of powers too gigantic to endure competition. His imitation is as that of one who, having heard the dash of the cataract, and surveyed its form with astonishment, should endeavour to rival it with the froth of a hand-baton. The compositions of that truly admirable writer abound with rhetorical amplifications; but they are seldom employed, except to illustrate what is obscure, to ennoble what is mean, or to support what is weak. It is but rarely, at least in his latter productions, that he has indulged in these embellishments where they were not required by his subject. Even where the headlong torrent of his imagination, swelling in the superabundance of internal resource, overbears occasionally those restraints which taste and learning would oppose to its progress, the reader is compelled to wonder at the luxuriant excess. But in the work before us, there is nothing which bears a resemblance even to the faults of this great man; nothing but an heap of interrogatories and interjections; a prodigious pile of sentences, inhabited by one solitary idea; a studied labour to explain, by which the weight of his remarks are diminished, and a variety of periods by which his meaning is attenuated. There are no aident expressions, no sublime images, no allusions to science, to nature, or to life; nothing to cheer the reader as he rambles from the main arguments of the work. We pass through the pages as in the mazes of a garden-labyrinth. There is a great length of path formed in a petty space; and the object of research may elude discovery by the circuitous way over which we are compelled to wander in the attempt to gain it.

ART. III. *Memoirs of the Author of the Vindication of the Rights of Woman.* By William Godwin. 12mo. 199 pp. 3s. 6d. Johnson. 1798.

TO such persons as are capable of unbiassed reflection, this performance, extraordinary as it is, may prove instructive. Of the authenticity of the tale no doubt can be entertained; for, as the author was the husband of the heroine, he had access to the best information, of which he appears to have assiduously availed himself. It is well known, that both Mrs. Wollstonecroft and her biographer spent much of their time in labouring to eradicate from the minds of their readers all respect for establishments deemed venerable for their antiquity, and to inspire them with enthusiastic admiration of daring and untried theories in morals, in politics, and in religion. In the narrative before us, we have an opportunity of contemplating the effects of such theories on their own practice.

The first thing recorded of Mary, as Mr. Godwin constantly calls her, which is peculiarly worthy of notice, was her rooted abhorrence of her father. Mr. Wollstonecroft, it seems,

“ was a man of a quick, impetuous disposition, subject to alternate fits of kindness and cruelty. The conduct he held towards the members of his family, was of the same kind as that he observed towards animals. He was for the most part extravagantly fond of them; but when he was displeased, and this frequently happened, his anger was alarming.”

In some instances of passion exercised by him “ to one of his dogs, his dutiful daughter was accustomed to speak of her emotions of *abhorrence*, as having risen to agony.”

It is very possible that the old gentleman's conduct on this occasion may have been such, as to excite in any feeling mind a momentary abhorrence at once involuntary and just; but Mary was accustomed to speak of it, and her enlightened biographer has given it to the public at large, for the purpose of perpetuating the disgrace of the parent of her who was “ the object dearest to his own heart that the universe contained”! But we beg Mr. Godwin's pardon. It is only among those who believe themselves bound by an antiquated law to “ honour their parents,” and to be silent when they cannot speak of them with respect, that this *custom* of Mary's will meet with general disapprobation; and we need not be told how little he values the approbation of men who are under such prejudices, and strangers to *political justice*.

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If Mary abhorred her father, she seems not to have had any great degree of dutiful regard for her mother. She is represented as having considered her attention to that parent on her death-bed as a wonderful effort of kindness. She had some time before left her father's house, as it appears to us in a fit of peevishness, because all her caprices were not humoured.

"But, true to the calls of humanity," says Mr. Godwin, "she felt in the intelligence of her mother's illness an irresistible motive, and eagerly returned to the paternal roof. At first, every attention was received with acknowledgment and gratitude; but as the attentions grew habitual, and the health of the mother more and more wretched, they were rather exacted than received."

Were they given without reluctance? We suspect not; for, we are told, that the last words her mother ever uttered were, "a little patience, and all will be over!" words which can hardly be accounted for, but on the supposition that the daughter had become impatient of her duty.

Though Mary's heart seems to have been little susceptible of filial piety, it is represented as having been open to sentiments of friendship. At an early period of life she contracted an intimacy with a young woman of the name of Frances Blood, by whom she was taught to spell, and to write with some regard to the rules of grammar; and, upon the death of her mother, she quitted her father's house for ever, and took up her residence with this friend at Walham Green, near the village of Fulham. "Mary having for ten years," says her biographer, "been the victim of a desire to promote the benefit of others, opened with her friend, in 1783, a day-school first at the village of Islington, and afterwards at Newington Green," where she was honoured by the friendship of Dr. Price and other eminent characters. About the beginning of 1785, Miss Blood, who had for some time discovered all the symptoms of a pulmonary consumption, set sail for Lisbon, where, on the 24th of February, she was married to Mr. Hugh Skegs of Dublin, then resident in the kingdom of Portugal. She became immediately pregnant; and Miss Wollstonecroft, shocked with the idea that she would die in child-bed at a distance from her friends, passed over to Lisbon to attend her, leaving the school under the management of her sisters. This exertion of benevolence, though romantic, is perhaps entitled to praise; but why could not Mary, without reluctance, do as much for a parent as for a friend?

On the death of Mrs. Skegs she returned to England; but finding that the school had suffered in her absence, and feeling
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in herself "a rooted aversion to that sort of cohabitation with her sisters, which the project of the school imposed," she got herself introduced into the family of Lord Viscount Kingsborough, eldest son to the Earl of Kingston, of the kingdom of Ireland, as governess to his daughters. Of her qualifications for the training of youth, her biographer is vehement in his praise, and mentions, with exultation, "the salutary effects of a new system of education," which she introduced into this noble family. One at least of these effects, we will venture to say, is fresh in the memory of all our readers.

Having quitted the family of Lord Kingsborough, she commenced author by profession; and, finding an asylum under the hospitable roof of Mr. Johnson, bookseller, she wrote many things which he published, and took a considerable share in the *Analytical Review*, which was instituted by him in 1788.

She did not remain long an inmate with Mr. Johnson, but was a frequent visitor of him after she had procured lodgings of her own; and it was in his house that she first saw Mr. Fuseli the painter, whose erudition, genius, and wit, excited her admiration. This was natural; but Mary, not content with admiring the talents of Mr. F. suffered herself to become enamoured of his person, and hoped to share his affection with his wife.

"She saw Mr. Fuseli," says her biographer, "frequently; he amazed, delighted, and instructed her. As a painter, it was impossible she should not wish to see his works, and consequently to frequent his house. She visited him; her visits were returned. Notwithstanding the inequality of their years, Mary was not of a temper to live upon terms of so much intimacy with a man of merit and genius, without loving him. The delight she enjoyed in his society, she transferred by association to his person. What she experienced in this respect, was no doubt heightened, by the state of *celibacy* and *restraint* in which she had hitherto lived, and to which the rules of polished society condemn an unmarried woman. She conceived a personal and ardent affection for him: Mr. Fuseli was a married man, and his wife the acquaintance of Mary. She readily perceived the restrictions which this circumstance seemed to impose upon her; but she made light of any difficulty that might arise out of them. She set a great value on a mutual affection between persons of an opposite sex; and there is no reason to doubt that, if Mr. Fuseli had been disengaged at the period of their acquaintance, he would have been the man of her choice. As it was, she conceived it both practicable and *eligible*, to cultivate a distinguishing affection for him, and to foster it by the endearments of personal intercourse and a reciprocation of kindness, without departing in the smallest degree from the rules she prescribed to herself."

What these rules were we are not told; but we are assured, that "general conversation and society could not satisfy her;"
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and that to break off the intercourse with Mr. Fuseli, which did not answer all her expectations, she determined to seek a new climate, and mingle in different scenes. This determination was perfectly right; and, if she did not communicate the cause of it to Mrs. Fuseli, we approve of the spirit with which, in 1792, she went over to France.

In about four months after her arrival at Paris, she was induced to banish Mr. Fuseli's merits from her memory, and to enter with another "into that species of connexion, for which," says her biographer, "her heart secretly panted, and which had the effect of diffusing an immediate tranquillity and cheerfulness over her manners." Mr. Imlay felt no objection to gratify *all* her desires; and she now enjoyed that "happiness of which her ardent imagination was continually conjuring up pictures, during her intercourse with the celebrated painter." To screen her from the cruelty of the French Convention, she found it expedient to assume the *name* of Imlay, and pass for the wife of a native of the United States of America; but she refused to be actually married to her lover, "because she would not," says Mr. Godwin, "involve him in family embarrassments, or expose him to pecuniary demands that existed against her."

If this was really her reason for objecting to a legal marriage, she had no cause to be surprised or offended at being afterwards deserted; for how could Mr. Imlay *keep* a woman as his wife, without embarrassing himself more or less with her family, and even paying her debts? During the first months, however, of her sensual delirium, she appears to have been under no apprehension of future desertion; but considered herself as "arrived at the situation, which, for two or three preceding years, her reason had pointed out to her as affording the most substantial prospect of happiness!" In the language of Elvira, she seems to have said to herself,

Not Caesar's Empress would I deign to prove;
No, make me MISTRESS to the man I love.

This dream of happiness was not of long duration. Mr. Imlay's pursuits led him to Havre de Grace, whence he did not return to his pregnant mistress at Paris, so soon as she thought he should have done; and therefore she repaired to him at Havre, where soon afterwards she was delivered of a daughter. He then went to London, having prevailed with her to return to Paris; and they never again met with the ardour of mutual love. Mary tried every method to recover his affection, and, when she did not succeed, attempted to drown herself! In all this she acted with great inconsistency.

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Imlay

Imlay was a philosopher of the same school with Godwin, and saw "the absurdity of expecting, that the inclinations and wishes of two human beings should coincide through any long period of time." He therefore "undertook to prove, in his letters written immediately after their complete separation, that his conduct towards her was reconcileable to the strictest rectitude; he had chosen another companion, and she was at liberty to follow his example."

Of this liberty she soon availed herself. Her connexion with Imlay was finally broken off in the month of March, 1796; and, in the succeeding August, she entered into a new one, in all respects similar, with the paradoxical author of *Political Justice*, who had publicly ridiculed and censured the rites of marriage, and from whom therefore she could not reasonably expect greater constancy than she had experienced from her former lover. She determined however to run the risk of a second desertion. "It was her maxim," we are told, "that in the intercourse between the sexes, the imagination should awaken the senses, and not the senses the imagination;" but whether this was actually the process in her own mind or not, it appears that her senses were now so *completely awakened*, that she could not exist without their gratification; and she was prevented from quitting England, only by finding in Mr. Godwin a man able and willing to satisfy her desires. She became pregnant; and, after seven months of sexual intercourse, she had acquired such an ascendancy over her lover, that she prevailed with him to marry her, though he had, not long before, declared to the world, that "so long as he should seek to engross one woman to himself, and to prohibit his neighbour from *proving his superior desert, and reaping the fruits of it*, he would be guilty of the most odious of all monopolies."

One consequence of this marriage was such as might have been expected, in a country where female virtue is still valued. Mrs. Godwin was deserted by many ladies who had courted the acquaintance of Mrs. Imlay; and though her biographer affects to wonder at this, and to turn what he calls their squeamishness into ridicule, his wonder is certainly groundless, and his ridicule much misplaced. Mary had passed for the wife of Mr. Imlay; she had even obtained from the American Ambassador at Paris, a *certificate* that she was his wife; her respectable friends in England might think that, in a country like France, where all ancient forms are abolished, such a certificate was sufficient to constitute a legal marriage; and if so, how could they avoid deserting their acquaintance, who, during the life of Imlay, had married Mr. Godwin. To their minds the following beautiful lines of Milton were more likely to occur, than the ravings of the author of *Political Justice*.

Hail

Hail, wedded love! mysterious law, true source
Of human offspring, sole propriety
In Paradise of all things common else.
By thee ADULTEROUS LUST was driven from men
Among the BESTIAL HERDS TO RANGE; by thee,
Founded in reason, loyal, just, and pure,
Relations dear, and all the charities
Of father, son, and brother, first were known.

Mary did not live long as the wife of Mr. Godwin. On Wednesday the 30th of August, 1797, she was delivered of a daughter, and died in great agony on the 10th of September; though her husband, with the good sense of a modern philosopher, "intreated her to recover," and though, with the same good sense, she had *promised* "not to leave him."

In the account of her last sufferings, which seem to have been indeed uncommonly severe, her husband does not scruple to specify the exact circumstances of the case, which, though more suited to a medical statement than a book of memoirs, intended for general perusal, is exactly conformable to the *Elements of Morality* written by Mrs. G. herself; in the introduction to which she urges the propriety of making young persons, particularly girls, intimately acquainted with certain parts of anatomy, generally thought to be unfit for their contemplation.

The reader of the *Vindication of the Rights of Woman*, will perhaps be surprised when he is informed, that, during her last illness, no religious expression escaped the author's lips. In that work, the grand principle is, that woman is not the inferior of man, but his equal in moral rank, walking along with him the road of duty, in which "they are both trained for a state of endless improvement." The biographer of Mary affirms, that she had made greater progress than her neighbours. Her hopes therefore should have been better founded. Prospect of success in a great and favourite pursuit, usually animates the heart, and shows itself; but alas! if this narrative be correct, she, whom the author calls the greatest ornament of her sex, gave no signal of that hope; "she died and made no sign." She had long discontinued her attendance on public worship; she preferred the faint glimmerings of a false philosophy to the glorious light of the gospel; and she could not be animated with those hopes, which the gospel alone can excite.

ART. IV. *Posthumous Works of the Author of a Vindication of the Rights of Woman. In Four Volumes. 12mo. 14s. Johnson. 1798.*

THE preceding article exhibits the memoirs of the very singular personage whose posthumous works we are now to notice. They consist of the *Wrongs of Woman*, a fragment; to which are added, the first book of a series of *Lessons for Children*; some Letters, and miscellaneous pieces.

The first of these, the *Wrongs of Woman*, represents a specimen of that system of morality in which the writer displayed in her own person, but which is alike offensive to the purity of female virtue, and the precepts of our holy religion; and which fortunately the zeal of the scanty number of her proselytes has not hitherto been able to disseminate, nor the varnish of modern philosophy to recommend.

A young woman marries an undeserving husband; his cruelty and ill-treatment drive her from his house. She attaches herself to another, who is in all respects congenial to her; and, as far as the tale is continued, her sufferings are deplorably afflicting. These are the wrongs of women. But what a shortsighted view of things is displayed in the moral, meant to be deduced from this narrative. As if man was to expect, without interruption, the gratification of his wishes; and as if it were not far, very far nobler, and more generous, rigidly to obey the claims of duty, than, like our puny moralist, to whine and complain, because her own frail and fallible views of things are checked by obstacles, and opposed by disappointments. Besides, it will not fail to be observed, that this paltry system puts the hopes and consolations of religion out of the question; and the idea of this being but a probationary state, is never permitted to intervene. It is hardly worth while to oppose argument to such weak and preposterous speculations; their own absurdities will soon sink them beneath the level of popular notice, and the author, if remembered at all, will excite only pity in some, and scorn in others.

The *Lessons for Children*, subjoined to the end of the second volume, might perhaps have been acceptable to Mr. Newbery, but how they could be deemed worthy of the distinction they have here found, we are at a loss to imagine.

The third volume consists of Letters, many of them of the most impassioned kind, and might well have been denominated the *English Eloisa*. We must confess that Mr. Imlay appears to have treated his *Roxalana* with no common coldness. But

we suppose him to have been a plain man of business, who had no objection to see the article *wife*, in the invoice of his other goods; but when she began to exclaim so very vehemently about flames and darts, and the other combustible matters in the vocabulary of disappointed passion, he literally took fright, and put from him the cup so little suited to the temperature of his constitution, and habits of his life. There are many without doubt of the young, the ardent, and the dissipated, who will peruse these epistles with eagerness and delight; but, in our cold and sober opinions, who are proud and anxious to avow principles diametrically opposite to the editor of these volumes, greater honour would have been done, and more genuine esteem evinced to the memory of the author, by destroying than by publishing them.

The latter part of the fourth volume is that alone which we can read without disgust; and, if we could separate it from the rest, would, but not too warmly, recommend. Some of the remarks on poetry are novel and ingenious, and display much power of thinking, though the strange prejudices which poisoned the mind of the author, do not fail occasionally to show themselves.

Upon the whole, as our opinion of Mrs. Godwin will probably be required, and may have some efficacy, we give it without scruple. She was a woman of strong intellect, and of ungovernable passions. To the latter, when once she had given the rein, she seems to have yielded on all occasions with little scruple, and as little delicacy. She appears, in the strongest sense, a voluptuary and sensualist, but without refinement. We compassionate her errors, and respect her talents; but our compassion is lessened by the mischievous tendency of her doctrines and example; and our respect certainly not extended or improved by her exclaiming against prejudices, of some of the most dangerous of which, she was herself perpetually the victim; by her praises of Virtue, the sanctity of which she habitually violated; and by her pretences to philosophy, whose real mysteries she did not understand, and the dignity of which, in various instances, she sullied and disgraced.

ART. V. Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London, for the Year 1798. Part I. 410. 199 pp. besides an Appendix of 26 pp. P. Elmsly, London. 1798.

THE contents of this part of the annual volume consist of nine articles; and the meteorological journal, which constitutes the Appendix.

I. The

I. *The Bakerian Lecture. Experiments upon the Resistance of Bodies moving in Fluids.* By the Rev. Samuel Vince, A. M. F. R. S. Plumian Professor of Astronomy and Experimental Philosophy in the University of Cambridge.

The insufficiency of the common theory of hydrostatics to account for the phenomena which result from experiments on non-elastic fluids, having struck the author of this lecture, as well as many other persons, he endeavoured to deduce some conclusions from a series of actual and accurate experiments, upon which he might afterwards reason with more certainty and confidence. Agreeably to the natural division of the subject, he in the first place proposed to consider the action of water at rest upon a body in motion; and, secondly, that of the water in motion upon the body at rest.

The experiments of the first class were performed by causing plane surfaces to revolve in water; but the paper gives no further description of the machine, than is contained in the following paragraph.

"Now," says he, "the radius of the axis of the machine made use of in these experiments, was 0.2117 inches, the area of the four planes was 3.73 inches, the distance of their centers of resistance from the axis was 7.57 inches, and they moved with a velocity of 0.66 feet in a second. The first column of the following table exhibits the angles at which the planes struck the fluid; the second column shows the resistance by experiment, in the direction of their motion, in Troy ounces; the third column gives the resistance by theory, assuming the perpendicular resistance to be the same as by experiment; the fourth column shews the power of the sine of the angle to which the resistance is proportional:

Angle.	Experiment.	Theory.	Power.
10°.	0.0112	0.0012	1.73
20.	0.0364	0.0093	1.73
30.	0.0769	0.0290	1.54
40.	0.1174	0.0616	1.54
50.	0.1552	0.1043	1.51
60.	0.1902	0.1476	1.33
70.	0.2125	0.1926	1.42
80.	0.2227	0.2217	2.41
90.	0.2321	0.2321	

After some remarks on the disagreement between the results of those experiments and the theory, Mr. Vince relates a set of similar experiments made with other bodies.

"Two semi-globes were next taken, and made to revolve with their flat sides forwards. The diameter of each was 1.1 inches, the distance of

of the centre of resistance from the axis was 6.28 inches, and they moved with a velocity of 0.543 foot in a second; and the resistance was found to be 0.08339 ounces, by experiment. By theory, the resistance is 0.05496 ounces; hence, the resistance by experiment : the resistance by theory :: 0.08339 : 0.05496, agreeing very well with the above-mentioned proportion. But when the spherical sides moved forwards with the same velocity, the resistance was 0.034 ounces. Hence, the resistance on the spherical side of a semi-globe : resistance on its base :: 0.034 : 0.08339; but this is not the proportion of the resistance of a perfect globe to the resistance of a cylinder of the same diameter, moving with the same velocity, because the resistance depends upon the figure of the back part of the body.

" I therefore took two cylinders, of the same diameter as the two semi-globes, and of the same weight; and, giving them the same velocity, I found the resistance to be 0.07998 ounces; therefore the resistance on the flat side of a semi-globe : the resistance of a cylinder of the same diameter, and moving with the same velocity :: 0.08339 : 0.07998. This difference can arise only from the action of the fluid on the back side of the semi-globe, moving with its flat side forwards, being less than that on the back of the cylinder, in consequence of which the semi-globe suffered the greater resistance. The resistance of the cylinders, thus determined directly by experiment, agrees very well with the foregoing experiments. The resistance, *ceteris paribus*, varies as the squares of the velocity very nearly, and may be taken so for all practical purposes, as I find by repeated experiments, made both upon air and water, in the manner described in my former paper. Hence, for different planes, the resistance varies as the area \times the square of the velocity."

After some remarks on the different effects which arise from the shape of the moving body, Mr. V. describes a curious experiment in the following manner:

" A vessel five feet high was filled with a fluid, which could be discharged by a stop-cock, in a direction parallel to the horizon. The cock being opened, the curve which the stream described was marked out upon a plane set perpendicular to the horizon; and by examining this curve, it was found to be a very accurate parabola, the abscissa of which was 13.85 inches, and the ordinate was 50 inches, hence, the latus rectum was 180.5 inches, one fourth of which is 45.1 inches, which is the space through which a body must fall to acquire the velocity of projection; hence, that velocity was 189.6 inches in a second. And here, by the bye, we may take notice of a remarkable circumstance. The depth of the cock below the surface of the fluid was 45.1 inches, hence, the velocity of projection was that which a body acquires in falling through a space equal to the whole depth of the fluid; whereas through a simple orifice, the velocity would have been that which is acquired in falling through half the depth; the pipe of the stop-cock therefore increased the velocity of the fluid in the ratio of $1 : \sqrt{2}$, and gave it the greatest velocity possible; the length

length of the pipe was 3 inches, and the area of the section 0.045 inches; also, the base of the vessel was a square, the side of which was 12 inches."

Mr. V. then describes a machine, which when presented to the above-mentioned stream of water, shows, in a very satisfactory manner, the action of the stream on a plane which is opposed to it in different angles of inclination, by means of actual weights, which will be found necessary to counteract that action. This machine is delineated in an annexed plate. The following table exhibits the force of the stream in different angles of inclination, as resulting both from the experiments and from the theory. It shows likewise, that the experiments agree sufficiently well with the theory, and that the resistance varies as the sine of the angle, at which the fluid strikes the plane.

Angle.	Experiment.			Theory.		
	oz.	dwt.	gr.	oz.	dwt.	gr.
90°.	1	17	12	1	17	12
80.	1	17	0	1	16	22
70.	1	15	12	1	15	6
60.	1	12	12	1	12	11
50.	1	18	10	1	18	17
40.	1	4	10	1	4	2
30.	0	18	18	0	18	18
20.	0	12	12	0	12	19
10.	0	6	4	0	6	12

The effect of that part of the force which acts in a direction perpendicular to the plane having been thus established, he next proceeded to examine, what part of the whole force that acts parallel to the plane is effective; and, for this purpose, he made some alterations in the machine; but the experiments with it were attended with considerable inaccuracies, and with some peculiarities, which cannot be well explained without the assistance of the figures.

II. *Experiments and Observations, tending to show the Composition and Properties of Urinary Concretions.* By George Pearson, M. D. F. R. S.

Amongst the historical observations in the commencement of this paper, the author mentions, that the various Greek, Latin, or English names of urinary concretions, are all allusive to their apparent resemblance to earths and stones; for such they were reckoned by ancient authors, a few however excepted, who were of opinion, that such concretions consist, in great measure, of animal matter.

In the year 1776, Mr. Scheele, the celebrated chemist, made many judicious and accurate experiments, the result of which exploded the opinion of the earthy nature of calculi, and proved that they consisted of a peculiar acid, Mr. Bergman found that $\frac{1}{150}$ of their weight was lime. The late Mr. Lavoisier thought that they consisted of acidulous phosphate of lime, and animal matter;

"But still it was the unrivalled Scheele who discovered, that the urine of healthy persons contains superphosphate, or acidulous phosphate, of lime; and who also indicated the experiment which verified his opinion, that phosphate of lime is the basis of bone."

Mr. Fourcroy obtained prussic acid from those concretions, and sometimes even phosphate of ammoniac, and of soda. Dr. Link asserts, that they consist of phosphoric acid, lime, ammoniac, oil, the bases of different kinds of gazes, together with the acid sublimate of Scheele. It is by no means wonderful that different chemists should thus find different substances, since there are not two of those concretions that may be said to be exactly alike, even in their external appearance.

Respecting the method of treating the diseases that are occasioned by those concretions, the Doctor observes, that the alkaline remedies, which had been used since the time of the Greek physicians, were laid aside by the regular practitioners for a century or two preceding their revival by Mrs. Stephens in the year 1720, who brought into vogue the theory of their operating by their causticity. But the successful use of potash, or of soda, when saturated, and especially when supersaturated, with carbonic acid, has completely refuted the above-mentioned theory.

"The observations," says this author, "which I shall now offer, are principally on a substance, which my experiments inform me is very generally a constituent of both urinary and arthritic concretions. It is a substance obtained by dissolving it out of these concretions, by lye of caustic fixed alkali, and precipitating it from the solution by acids. In this way, Scheele separated this matter; but he did not consider its importance, nor of course at all investigate its properties. He does not even seem to have been aware that it was a distinct constituent part of the urinary concretion; for when he relates the experiment of precipitating matter from the nitric solution of calculus by metallic salts, no distinction is made between the precipitations in this experiment, and that in the former; yet we can now show, that in the one case the precipitate is a peculiar animal oxide, and in the other they are metallic phosphates. As Scheele obtained an acid sublimate, it has been imagined by some writers, that the precipitate by any acid (even by the carbonic) from the alkaline menstruum, was an acid; the same as that obtained by sublimation, and which, in the new system of

of chemistry, has been denominated *lithic acid*. The following experiments show that these substances are different species of matter."

This paragraph is followed by the account of many experiments, from which we shall only transcribe the following conclusions:

" 1. It appears that at least one half of the matter of the urinary concretions subjected to the above experiments was united to caustic soda, and was precipitated from it by acids.

" 2. This precipitate does not indicate acidity to the most delicate tests, and as it is inodorous, tasteless, scarcely soluble in cold water, does not unite to the alkali of carbonite and pot-ash, of soda, or of ammoniac, nor to oxide of mercury, nor to the lime of lime-water, nor decompose soap, or prussiate of iron; and as its combination with caustic soda resembles soap, more than any double salt known to consist of an acid and alkali, this precipitate does not belong to the *genus* of acids.

" 3. As this precipitate could not be sublimed, without being decomposed, like animal matter, and also for the reasons mentioned in the last paragraph, it cannot be the same thing as the *acid sublimatum* of Scheele, or the succinic kind.

" 4. As it does not appear to be putrescible, nor form a viscid solution with water, it cannot be referred to the *animal mucilages*.

" 5. On account of its manner of burning in the air, under the blow-pipe, and its yielding, on exposure to fire in close vessels, the distinguishing products of animal matter, (especially ammoniac and prussic acid) as well as on account of its affording a soap like matter with caustic soda, this precipitate may be considered as a species of animal matter; and, from its composition being analogous to that of the substances called, in the new system of chemistry, *animal oxides*, it belongs to that genus. Its peculiar and specific distinguishing properties are, *imputrescibility, facility of crystallization, insolubility in cold water*, and, that most remarkable property of all others, *producing a pink or red matter, on evaporation of its solution in nitric acid*."

Having ascertained that the above-mentioned precipitate is an oxide, and not acid, the Doctor thought that it might possibly be acidifiable, and in order to obtain an adequate quantity of this supposed acid, he performed many experiments with the three acidifiers of oxides; namely, the oxymuriatic, the nitromuriatic, and the nitric; but those experiments could not accomplish the intended object. They were, however, productive of another discovery; namely, the change of the most common basis of urinary concretions (the animal oxide) into ammoniac and carbonic acid, by the oxygen of the above-mentioned acids.

Dr. P. likewise subjoins a variety of other experiments, made with collateral views; and, in the last part of the paper, gives the particular examination of, and observations on, 1st, an urinary concretion from a dog; 2^{dly}, a calculus from the urinary

urinary bladder of a rabbit ; and, 3dly, some urinary concretions from a horse.

iii. *On the Discovery of Four additional Satellites of the Georgian Sidus. The retrograde Motion of its old Satellites unobscured ; and the Cause of their Disappearance at certain Distances from the Planet explained.* By William Herschel, LL. B. F. R. S.

The ingenious author of this valuable article, ever assiduous and fortunate in his astronomical pursuits, announces to the world the discovery of four more satellites belonging to the Georgian planet, which, together with the former two, make up the number of six satellites. This paper contains likewise some conclusive remarks on the large and small rings which were supposed to belong to the same planet.

The discovery of these satellites is attended with two remarkable and peculiar circumstances. 1st. Their motion is retrograde ; namely, in a direction contrary to that of all the planets and satellites that have hitherto been discovered within the solar system ; and, 2dly, they disappear whenever they come within a certain distance of their planet.

In a subject like this, where the imagination, besides other obvious causes, might be productive of considerable errors, the Doctor very judiciously relates a great number of select observations, which gradually suggested the possibility, excited the suspicion, or finally proved the reality of his discoveries ; after which, he subjoins some short arguments, to show that his results are fairly deduced from those observations.

Necessarily passing over the list of those observations, we shall only add some of the conclusions relative to the three principal heads of the paper ; namely, the supposed rings, the periodical revolutions of the new satellites, and their vanishing within a certain distance of the planet.

" With regard to the phenomena which gave rise to the suspicion of one or more rings, it must be noticed, that few specula or object-glasses are so very perfect as not to be affected with some rays or inequalities when high powers are used, and the object to be viewed is very minute. It seems, however, from the observations of March 15, 1789, and Feb. 26, 1792, that the cause of deception, in this case, must be looked for elsewhere. It has often happened, that the situation of the eye-glass, being on one side of the tube which brings the observer close to the mouth of it, has occasioned a visible defect in the view of a very minute object, when proper care has not been taken to keep out of the way ; especially when the wind is in such a quarter as to come from the observer across the telescope. The dissection of a current of air alone may also affect vision. Without, however,

however, entering further into the discussion of a subject that must be attended with uncertainty, I will only add, that the observation of the 26th seems to be very decisive against the existence of a ring. When the surmises arose at first, I thought it proper to suppose, that a ring might be in such a situation as to render it almost invisible; and that consequently, observations should not be given up, till a sufficient time had elapsed to obtain a better view of such a supposed ring, by a removal of the planet from its node. This has now sufficiently been obtained in the course of ten years; for, let the node of the ring have been in any situation whatsoever, provided it kept to the same, we must by this time have had a pretty good view of the ring itself. Placing therefore great confidence on the observations of March 5, 1792, supported by my late views of the planet, I venture to affirm, that it has no ring in the least resembling that, or rather those, of Saturn.

"The flattening of the poles of the planet seems to be sufficiently ascertained by many observations. The 7-feet, the 10-feet, and the 20-feet instruments, equally confirm it; and the direction pointed out Feb. 26, 1794, seems to be conformable to the analogies that may be drawn from the situation of the equator of Saturn, and of Jupiter."

On the periodical revolution of the satellites, we find the following observations.

"It may be some satisfaction to know what time the four additional satellites probably employ in revolving round their planet. Now, as this can only be ascertained with accuracy by many observations, we must of course remain in suspense, till a series of them can be properly instituted. But, in the mean time, we may admit the distance of the interior satellite to be $25''5$, as our calculation of the estimation of March 5, 1794, gives it; and from this we may compute that its periodical revolution will be 5 days, 21 hours, 25 minutes.

"If we place the intermediate satellite at an equal distance between the two old ones, or at $38''57$, its period will be 10 days, 23 hours, 4 minutes.

"By the figure of Feb. 9, 1790, it seems that the nearest exterior satellite is about double the distance of the farthest old one: hence, its periodical time is found to be 38 days, 1 hour, 49 minutes.

"The most distant satellite, according to the calculation of the observation of Feb. 28, 1794, is full four times as far from the planet as the old second satellite; it will therefore take at least 107 days, 16 hours, 40 minutes, to complete one revolution.

"It will hardly be necessary to add, that the accuracy of these periods depends entirely upon the truth of the assumed distances; some considerable difference therefore may be expected, when observations shall furnish us with proper data for more accurate determinations."

With respect to the disappearing of those satellites when they come within a certain distance of the planet, the Doctor finding that the supposition of a dense atmosphere round the planet is insufficient to account for the phenomenon, offers an explanation on another principle, which however does not seem

to be very clear and satisfactory. He endeavours to explain it from "certain affections between bright and very bright objects, contrasted with others that take place between faint and very faint ones." But for further particulars we must refer our readers to the papers itself.

Two plates are annexed to this article.

IV. *An Inquiry concerning the Source of the Heat which is excited by Friction.* By Benjamin Count of Rumford, F. R. S. M. R. I. A.

It has been commonly known from time immemorial, that friction generates heat; and, at the same time, the origin of the heat thus produced has been always sought in vain. Count Rumford's present paper tells us nothing more than this; but he tells it in an instructive manner. He relates some accurate experiments, calculates their results agreeably to the rules of the lately formed theory of heat, and introduces some queries, not indeed quite new, but well expressed.

Omitting the particular description of the apparatus, which could not be well understood without the plate that accompanies the paper, we shall endeavour to present our readers with a summary account of the experiments, and their results.

A brass cylinder, having a hole of a certain length in its middle, was made to revolve, by means of a powerful machine, round a blunt steel borer, which entered the above-mentioned hole, and was pushed against the metal at the bottom of it with a force equal to about 10,000 lb. avoirdupois. This brass cylinder was pierced with another much smaller hole, which went a certain way into the metal, in a direction perpendicular to the axis. This hole received a small thermometer for the purpose of ascertaining the temperature of the metal in different periods of the experiment.

At the beginning of the experiment the temperature of the air, cylinder, &c. was 60°. Fahren. but when the cylinder had performed 960 revolutions, which was done in the time of 30 minutes, the temperature, which the metal had acquired in consequence of the friction, was found to be 130°.

Now, in order to investigate the principal object in view; namely, the origin of that heat, the Count supposed that the heat must have been furnished either from the metal which had been scraped off by the borer, or from the surrounding air; he therefore collected the metallic dust or shavings, and endeavoured to ascertain whether their capacities for containing caloric had been changed by the operation; for, if that was not the

the case, the heat could not, according to the modern theory, be said to have been furnished by the shavings. By working according to the late Dr. Crawford's method, the Count found that their capacity for caloric was not sensibly different from that of the rest of the metal.

The next experiment was made for the purpose of ascertaining whether the heat proceeded from the surrounding air.

"By means of a piston exactly fitted to the mouth of the bore of the cylinder, through the middle of which piston the square iron bar, to the end of which the blunt steel borer was fixed, passed in a square hole made perfectly air-tight, the access of the external air, to the inside of the bore of the cylinder, was effectually prevented."

Notwithstanding this alteration in the apparatus, the effect was found to be the same as in the preceding experiment; namely, the same degree of heat was produced by an equal degree of friction.

In the third and fourth experiments the cylinder was made to revolve in a wooden box, and the box was filled with water, which of course touched and surrounded the metal. The machine being put in motion, the water began to be heated, its temperature increased gradually, and, at the end of $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours, the water was actually boiling.

Remarkable as this experiment may seem, its effect is however much less surprising than that of an experiment which is generally known to all the blacksmiths; namely, that of rendering a piece of iron visibly red hot, by means of a dozen, or at most twenty, smart strokes with a hammer.

The paper concludes with observing and proving, that the heat which was generated in the above-mentioned experiments, could not be produced from the scrapings of metal, nor by the air, nor, in short, by any thing that seemed to be concerned in the experiments. The cause therefore of this remarkable phenomenon still remains a mystery; and naturally suggests the following queries. "What is heat?—Is there any such thing as an igneous fluid?—Is there any thing that can with propriety be called *caloric*?"

(To be concluded in our next.)

ART. VI. *A New and General Biographical Dictionary; containing an historical and critical Account of the Lives and Writings of the most eminent Persons in every Nation; particularly the British and Irish; from the earliest Accounts of Time to the present Period. Wherein their remarkable Actions and Sufferings, their Virtues, Parts and Learning, are accurately displayed. With a Catalogue of their Literary Productions. A New Edition, in Fifteen Volumes, greatly enlarged and improved. 8vo. 5l. 5s. All the Booksellers. 1798.*

POPULAR works like the present, may be considered as always in progress, and of consequence in their very nature far from perfect. Biographical notices, however, of any kind, though much more defective than this elaborate production, are highly useful and important, both to morals and to learning. The records of the great and good, with a candid representation of their infirmities, on the one part, animate the ingenuous to imitation, or may deter the frail and inexperienced mind from errors, the memorial of which is not allowed to perish. Biography indeed is the termination to which Virtue looks for its temporal reward, and Justice for retribution; and let those who are particularly anxious in the examination of such productions, be cautious of imputing to the editors of this work either negligence, inaccuracy, or want of skill. Let it not be hastily alledged, that some eminent names are altogether omitted, that some are dilated with minute prolixity, and that others are abridged with scanty preciseness. It seems a sufficient recommendation of this edition to observe once for all, that it is enlarged by no less a number than three thousand four hundred and twenty-four lives, either entirely new-written, or now for the first time added.

It is represented in a short and appropriate preface, that three different individuals have been employed in this work. "For the five first volumes, one gentleman is entirely responsible. The remaining ten were consigned to two writers, who, for no very important reason, chose to take them alternately." We shall give a specimen of each persons performance, that the reader may the better estimate the work as a whole.

"ALEXIUS, or ALEXEI (PETROVITCH), the sole fruit of the inauspicious marriage between Peter the Great and Eudocia Lapukin, was born in the year 1690; and never was the birth of any Prince more unfortunate to himself, to his parents and to his country. The circumstances which occasioned his exclusion from the succession and

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his death are well known; but as we have received them through the medium of his accusers, we ought to be very careful in giving credit to all the charges with which his memory has been stigmatised. One fact is incontrovertible, that his education was most shamefully neglected, and that he was a stranger to the restraints necessary at his age, until the time of introducing proper habitudes had almost elapsed. He was committed to the care of women, and to the instruction of the Russian priests, the lowest and most ignorant of men; who instilled into him all the prejudices of their religion, and were continually inveighing against his father for the abolition of many barbarous customs, which they had long considered with a reverential awe. Nor was he released from this wretched species of tuition before his eleventh year; when Baron Huyfen, a man of great merit and ability, was appointed his governor. Under this judicious instructor he seems to have made no inconsiderable progress; and his early prejudices might gradually have worn away, if Prince Mentshikof had not contrived to remove from him the only person who was likely to instil into him the proper principles of action, and taken upon himself the superintendence of his education. But as that prince scarcely ever saw him, and placed about him the most improper persons, he seems to have intentionally given him a full scope to his vicious inclinations, and to have abandoned him to the company of the lowest wretches, by whom he was encouraged to continual ebriety, and to every kind of the lowest excess: yet this designing minister artfully extorted from the Tzarovitch, in prison, a confession, that he was the only person who had taken any care of his education. It appears from several facts, that Peter had conceived a very early prejudice against his son; and inspired him with such terror, that, in order to avoid drawing before his father, the young prince once discharged a pistol against his own right hand. All persons however join in condemning the imprudence and obstinacy of Alexéi, which seem to have warped his judgment, and, at times, to have transported him to a degree of insanity. Bruce, who knew him well, gives the following account of his person and manners; and as he was not prejudiced against him, his testimony must be esteemed more valued than all the laboured accusations of his enemies. "The Tzarovitch arrived in Mosco this winter [1714], where I saw him for the first time. He kept a mean Finlandish girl for his mistress. I went often with the general to wait on him; and he came frequently to the general's house, attended by very mean and low persons. He was very slovenly in his dress; his person was tall, well made, of a brown complexion, black hair and eyes, of a stern countenance and strong voice. He frequently did me the honour to talk with me in German, being fully master of that language; he was adored by the populace, but little respected by the superior ranks, for whom he never shewed the least regard; he was always surrounded by a number of debauched ignorant priests, and other mean persons of bad character; in whose company he always reflected on his father's conduct for abolishing the ancient customs of the country, declaring that as soon as he came to succeed, he should soon restore Russia to its former state; and threatening to destroy, without reserve, all his father's favourites. This he did so often, and with so little reserve, that it could

could not miss reaching the Emperor's ears; and it was generally thought he now laid the foundation of that ruin he afterwards met with." And again: "It was very remarkable, that the prince never appeared at any of the public meetings, when his Majesty was attended by all persons of quality and rank, such as birth-days, celebrating of victories, launching of ships, &c. General Bruce, who lived next door to the Prince, had orders always to give the Prince notice the day before of such public days or meetings, and I had the honour to carry and deliver the message; but his Highness, to avoid appearing in public, either took physic or let blood, always making his excuse, that he could not attend for want of health; when, at the same time, it was notoriously known that he got drunk in very bad company, when he used constantly to condemn all his father's actions." Being inflamed by continual drunkenness, and worn out by a series of persecutions, he was driven to a state of desperation; and at length, in the year 1716, suddenly renouncing his right of succession, in favour of Peter's son by Catherine, he demanded permission to retire into a convent. But, soon afterwards, adopting the advice of his principal adherents, he made his escape to Vienna; where he put himself under the protection of Charles VI. That Emperor, in order to shelter him from the resentment of his father, sent him first to Inspruck in the Tyrol; and afterwards removed him, for still greater security, to the castle of St. Elmo at Naples. Being secretly betrayed by his Finnish mistress, whom he is reported to have married, and influenced by the most solemn promises of perfect forgiveness, he was prevailed upon, by the emissaries of his father, to return to Moscow. Having there solemnly renounced all right of succession to the crown, he was conveyed to Petersburg, thrown into the fortress, tried by a select committee, and condemned to suffer death. The acts of his process and condemnation are well known, being published by order of the Emperor, and are to be found in several authors.—Whatever prejudices we may have entertained against Alexéi, we cannot peruse the trial without being shocked at the cruel and unjust mode with which it was conducted: when his merciless persecutors eagerly laid hold of every advantage which was afforded by his youth and simplicity; when his Finnish mistress, who was afterwards pensioned for her attestations, deposed every angry expression against his father which she ever recollected to have fallen from him in the most unguarded moments; when not only his words and actions were brought to witness against him; but his very thoughts were scrutinized; and his own confession extorted from him in prison employed to convict him. Indeed many of his own depositions, which tended most to criminate him, by discovering intentions of rebellion, were not openly acknowledged, but only signed by him in prison; and a signal difference is remarkable between his confessions during his first examination at Moscow, which was more public, and those made at Petersburg, when his trial was chiefly carried on in private before Peter and his immediate confidants: circumstances which seem to prove the infliction of torture. With respect to Alexéi's death, there are two prevailing opinions; one advanced in the manifesto of Peter, that he was seized with an apoplectic fit, and died of convulsions occasioned by the violent passions of his mind and the

terrors of death; and the other, that he was secretly executed in prison. The latter seems most entitled to belief, notwithstanding the assertions of Peter, and the apology of his panegyrists, particularly of Voltaire, who has supported his innocence with the most plausible arguments." Vol. i, p. 252.

The life of Lord Clive is also entirely new, and well deserves attention. With this we shall conclude our account for this month.

"CLIVE (ROBERT), son of Richard Clive, Esq. was born on the 29th of September 1725, at Styche, the seat of his ancestors, in the parish of Moreton-Say, near Market Drayton. His father, who possessed but a small estate by inheritance, had, to increase his income, engaged in the profession of the law. At an early period of his youth, Robert was sent for his education to a private school at Llostock in Cheshire. The master, Dr. Eaton, soon discovered in his scholar a superior courage and sagacity which prognosticated the future hero. "If this lad," he would say, "should live to be a man, and an opportunity be given for the exertion of his talents, few names will be greater than his."

"At the age of eleven he was removed from Llostock to a school at Market Drayton, of which the Reverend Mr. Burslem was the master. On the side of a high hill in that town is an ancient church, with a lofty steeple, from nearly the top of which is an old stone spout, projecting in the form of a dragon's head. Young Clive ascended this steeple, and, to the astonishment of the spectators below, scared himself on the spout.

"Having remained but a short time at Mr. Burslem's school, he was placed in that of Merchant Taylor's at London, which, however, did not long retain him as a scholar. His father having reverted to what seems to have been a predilection for private schools, committed him to the care of Mr. Sterling at Hemel Hempstead in Hertfordshire, with whom he continued till, in 1743, he received an appointment as a writer to the East-India Company.

"From the frequency of his removals, to which perhaps was added an intractable disposition, he obtained no applause, but rather the reverse, from the several masters to whom the care of his education had been entrusted.

"To fulfil his engagement in the service to which he had been appointed, he embarked in one of the ships belonging to the East-India Company, and arrived at Madras in 1744. In his new employment he however discovered the same dislike to application, and the same aversion to controul, by which his character had hitherto been distinguished. This intractable disposition proved as disagreeable to his superiors as it must have been the occasion of much inconvenience to himself. One instance is related. Having acted or neglected something inconsistently with the discipline of his office, his misconduct was reported to the Governor, who commanded him to ask pardon of the Secretary whom he had offended. He made his submission in terms of contempt, which the Secretary mistaking for a compliment, invited him

him to dinner.—“ No, Sir,” replied Clive, “ the Governor did not command me to dine with you.”

“ When in 1746 Madras was surrendered to the French, under the command of their Admiral M. de la Bourdonnais, the officers both civil and military, who had served under the East-India Company, became prisoners on parole. M. Dupleix, however, who was Chief Commander of the military forces in India, not having been present at the surrender, refused to ratify the treaty, unless they would take another parole under the new Governor. The English, in consequence of this new stipulation, thought themselves released from their engagements with Bourdonnais, and at liberty not only to make their escape, but to take up arms, if they should find an opportunity. Mr. Clive, accordingly, disguised as a Moor, in the dress of the country, escaped with a few others to St. David's, a fortress which is situated to the south of Madras, at about the distance of 21 miles.

“ He had not been long arrived at St. David's, before he lost some money in a party at cards with two Ensigns, who were detected in the act of cheating. They had won considerable sums; but as the fraud was evident, the losers at first refused payment. At length, however, they were intimidated by the threats of the successful gamblers. Clive alone persisted in his refusal, and accepted a challenge from the boldest of his antagonists. They met each with a single pistol. Clive fired without success. His antagonist, quitting the ground, presented a pistol to his head, and commanded him to ask his life, with which demand, after some hesitation, he complied; but, being required to recant his expressions, he pre-emptorily refused. The officer told him, if he persisted in his refusal, he would fire. “ Fire and be damned !” replied Clive. “ I said you cheated; I say so still; nor will I ever pay you.” The Ensign finding every expedient to obtain the money ineffectual, threw away the pistol, and declared that his adversary was a madman. Clive replied to the compliments of some of his friends on his conduct in this affair: “ The man has given me my life, and I have no right in future to mention his behaviour at the card table; although I will never pay him, nor ever keep him company.” In 1747 Mr. Clive was promoted to the commission of an ensign in the military service; but had no opportunity of displaying his talents till the following year, when the siege of Pondicherry afforded an ample scope for their exertion. At this memorable attack the young ensign distinguished himself by his courage in defence of the advanced trench. He received a shot in his hat, and another in his coat; some officers in the same detachment having been killed. The early rains, however, and Admiral Boscawen's want of experience in military operations, compelled the English to raise the siege, and to return to Fort St. David's.

“ On the attack, when the powder was almost exhausted, Clive, instead of sending a serjeant to procure a fresh supply, ran to the trench and brought it. In consequence of this action, an officer ventured to insinuate; in his absence, that he had relinquished his post through fear. A friend having informed him of this aspersions, was accordingly requested to go with him to the person who had thus malignantly de-
famed.

famed him. The charge, though true, was at first denied; Clive however insisting upon immediate satisfaction, they withdrew; but while they were retiring, he received a blow from his antagonist, who was following him. Instantly he drew his sword, as did the other, relying on the interposition of the company. Both having been put under an arrest, were obliged to submit to a court of enquiry, which decided that the officer should ask pardon at the head of the battalion, for a causeless aspersion, without notice of the blow, for which offence he might otherwise have been disbanded.

“Unwilling to injure the service, Mr. Clive declined speaking of his past quarrel till the return of the army to St. David's, when, calling upon the officer, he reminded him of the late transaction. Admitting that he was satisfied with the decision of the court, and the consequent compliance of the officer, he still insisted that he must call him to account for the blow, of which no notice had been taken. The officer, on the contrary, alleged that his compliance with the opinion of the court ought to be admitted as satisfactory, and refused to make any other concession. Mr. Clive accordingly waved his cane over his head, saying, that as he thought him too contemptible a coward for beating, he should content himself with insisting on him that mark of infamy. On the following day the officer resigned his commission.

“When the season for military operations was over, the troops remained at St. David's, and before the return of spring they received news of a cessation of hostilities between Great Britain and France. Still however the tense of antient rivalry, the reciprocal aggravation of recent injuries, an opposition of interests, a mutual confidence in strength, seemed to animate both nations to a renewal of the war. The dominions of the Rajah of Tanjore had at that time been claimed by his brother, with a declaration that he, though deposed by his subjects, was their rightful sovereign; and that the reigning Rajah was an usurper. The English of St. David's, convinced by these allegations, determined to espouse the cause of the deposed Rajah. They resolved to begin their attack upon a fort of the Rajah's, called *Devi Côtah*. On their advance, finding the approaches difficult, and the ramparts covered with innumerable forces, they were at first deterred from their enterprise. Clive, however, insisted that the attempt, though dangerous, was not hazardous. He thought the town might easily be taken by storm; recommending only to advance the cannons in the night, as by them the gates might be effectually destroyed. Captain Cope, the commander, refused to listen to the advice, as too desperate; till, after having exhausted his ammunition by a fruitless cannonade, he was compelled to retreat to Fort St. David's. The disgrace of this discomfiture; its pernicious influence upon their trade; and the exultation of their common enemy the French, induced the English once more to attempt the reduction of *Devi Côtah*. The command of this expedition was entrusted to Major Lawrence, an officer at that time but little known, but who was afterwards distinguished for his abilities in the service. As a breach was made in the walls, Clive, who then possessed only the rank of a lieutenant, solicited the command of the forlorn hope. Lawrence, willing to preserve him

him from so dangerous a station, told him the service did not then fall in his turn. Clive replied, that knowing it did not, he came rather to ask it as a favour, than to demand it as a right; but that on such an occasion he hoped the request of a volunteer would not be rejected. Major Lawrence consented; and Clive, in consequence of his appointment to the command of thirty-four British soldiers, and seven hundred Sepoys, was ordered to storm the breach. Accordingly they led the way; but in passing a rivulet, between the camp and the fort, four of the English fell by the fire of the enemy. The Sepoys were alarmed, and halted as soon as they had passed the stream; but the English persevered, and, advancing closely upon the breach, presented their musquets, when a party of horse, which had been concealed in the tower, rushed upon their rear, and killed twenty-six. Clive, by stepping aside, escaped a stroke which had been aimed at him by one of the horse as they passed him. He ran towards the rivulet, and, having passed, had the good fortune to join the Sepoys. Of the whole four-and-thirty, himself and three others were all that were left alive. Major Lawrence, seeing the disaster, commanded all the Europeans to advance. Clive still marched in the first division. The horse renewed their attack, but were repulsed with such slaughter that the garrison, dismayed at the sight, gave way as the English approached the breach, and, flying through the opposite gate, abandoned the town to the victors. Alarmed at the success of the English, the Rajah sent them overtures of peace; to which, on condition that a settlement should be made on his rival, and the fort of Devi Côtah, with the adjoining district, be ceded to the company, the English readily agreed.

"The war being thus concluded, Lieutenant Clive, to whose active mind the idleness which in time of peace attends a soldier's life was intolerably irksome, returned to the civil establishment, and was admitted to the same rank as that he would have held had he never quitted the civil for the military line. His income was now considerably increased by his appointment to the office of commissary to the British troops; an appointment which the friendship of Major Lawrence had procured him. He had not long been settled at Madras, when a fever of the nervous kind destroyed his constitution, and operated so banefully on his spirits that the constant presence of an attendant became absolutely requisite. As the disease however abated, his former strength was in some degree renewed; but his frame had received so rude a shock, that, during the remainder of his life, excepting when his mind was ardently engaged, the oppression on his spirits frequently returned.

"The cessation of hostilities between the English and the French had given to the latter an opportunity of executing the important projects they had formed; which brought the affairs of the company into such a state as to induce Clive to resume the military character; in which he performed most signal acts of prowess, and encountered a variety of uncommon difficulties and dangers, too numerous to be particularised in our limited work, but which the reader will find amply detailed in the *Biographia Britannica*.

"Whoever contemplates the forlorn situation of the company, when Lord Clive first arrived at Calcutta in the year 1756, and then considers

considers the degree of opulence and power they possessed when he finally left that place, in the year 1767, will be convinced that the history of the world has seldom afforded an instance of so rapid and improbable a change. At the first period they were merely an association of merchants struggling for existence. One of their factories was in ruins; their agents were murdered; and an army of 50,000 men, to which they had nothing to oppose, threatened the immediate destruction of their principal settlement. At the last period, distant from the first but ten years, they were become powerful princes, possessed of vast revenues, and ruling over fifteen millions of people. When the merits of those who contributed to this great revolution shall be weighed in the impartial judgment of future times, it will be found that Watson, Pocock, Adams, and Monro, deserved well of the company; but that Clive was its saviour*, and the principal author of its greatness.

"After Lord Clive's last return from India, he was made, in 1769, one of the knights companions of the noble order of the bath.

"Though his exploits will excite the admiration, and receive the plaudits of posterity, yet in his life-time the same ingratitude was shewn him, which the greatest men, in all ages and countries, have experienced; for, on the pretence "that all acquisitions made under the influence of a military force, or by treaty with foreign powers, do of right belong to the state, a party in the House of Commons, countenanced by the minister, attempted to ruin both his fortune and his fame. A motion was made in this assembly, on the 21st of February 1773, to resolve, that, "in the acquisition of his wealth, Lord Clive had abused the powers with which he was entrusted." The speech he made on the occasion concluded with the following words: "If the resolution proposed should receive the assent of the house, I shall have nothing left that I can call my own, except my paternal fortune of 500l. a year; and which has been in the family for ages past. But upon this I am content to live; and perhaps I shall find more real content of mind and happiness, than in the trembling affluence of an unsettled fortune. But to be called, after sixteen years have elapsed, to account for my conduct in this manner; and after an uninterrupted enjoyment of my property, to be questioned, and considered as obtaining it unwarrantably, is hard indeed! and a treatment of which I should not think the British senate capable. Yet if this should be the case, I have a conscious innocence within me, which tells me that my conduct is irreproachable.—*Frangas non fecit.*—They may take from me what I have; they may, as they think, make me poor, but I will be happy. Before I sit down, I have one request to make to the house, that when they come to decide upon my honour, they will not forget their own." The House of Commons rejected the motion, and resolved, "that Lord Clive had rendered great and meritorious services to his country."

"When the disputes between Great Britain and her colonies had arisen to such a height that they were not likely to be terminated any other way than by open hostilities, overtures were made to Lord Clive to accept of the chief command in America; but he declined

* We object much to this use of the appropriate title *Saviour*. It should be *preserver*.

the proposal, on account of the ill state of his health, and from a consciousness that the vigour of his mind was not equal to what it had before been.

“ Lord Clive was one of the few men whose conduct was always directed by the dictates of his own mind, and whose decisions were therefore secret. Like the first of the Cæsars, the talents of other men could add nothing to the reach of his genius, or the correctness of his judgment. Mr. Pitt emphatically called him a heaven-born general; as, without experience, or being versed in military affairs, he surpassed all the officers of his time. In parliament he represented, from the year 1760 to his decease, the antient borough of Shrewsbury, the chief town of the county wherein he was born. The interest which he took in the disputations of this assembly, was seldom sufficient to induce him to speak; but when the attack upon his conduct had called into action the powers of his mind, his eloquence was such as has not been often surpassed.

“ The severe illness with which Lord Clive was attacked, during his first residence in the East Indies, gave an injury to his constitution which was never fully repaired; and his health was farther weakened by his successive visits to the unwholesome climates of that country. Hence it was that he became subject at times to a depression of spirits. His ardent and active mind, when not called into exertion by some great occasion, frequently preyed upon itself. In the latter part of his life, having nothing peculiarly important and interesting to engage his attention, and his body growing more and more infirm, the depression increased; and to this was owing his decease, on the 22d of November 1774, not long after he had entered into the 50th year of his age. He was interred at Moreton-Say, the parish in which he was born. In the various relations of private life, Lord Clive was highly beloved and esteemed; for he was a man of the kindest affections, and of every social virtue. His secret charities were numerous and extensive; but the present he made of seventy thousand pounds, as a provision for the invalids of the company's service, was the noblest donation of its kind that ever came from a private individual. His person was of the largest of the middle size; his countenance inclined to sadness; and the heaviness of his brow imparted an unpleasant expression to his features. It was a heaviness that arose not from the prevalence of the unsocial passions (for of these few men had a smaller share) but from a natural fullness in the flesh above the eye-lid. His words were few; and his manner, among strangers, was reserved; yet it won the confidence of men, and gained admission to the heart. Among his intimate friends he had great pleasantness and jocularity, and on some occasions was too open. In February 1753, immediately before he embarked for England, he married Margaret, daughter of Edmund Maskelyne, Esq. of Parton in Wiltshire, and sister to the Rev. Dr. Nevil Maskelyne, the present astronomer royal. By this lady he had Edward, the present Lord Clive, born March 7, 1754; Rebecca, born September 15, 1760; Charlotte, born January 15, 1762; Margaret, born August 15, 1763; and Robert, born August 31, 1769.” Vol. iv, p. 87.

As among the guardians of English literature, we rejoice to observe, that the idle innovation of printing gentile adjectives, as English, French, Spanish, without a capital letter (english, french, spanish) is not continued throughout this work, though it appears in the prior volumes.

(*To be continued.*)

ART. VII. *The Influence of local Attachment with respect to Home, a Poem, in Seven Books: a new Edition, with large Additions: and Odes, with other Poems. In Two Volumes. By Mr. Polwhele. 8vo. 6s. Dilly. 1798:*

THE poem on Local Attachment, which occupies the former of these two volumes, was printed alone in 1796, without the name of the author; and very early received our commendations*. In deference to the opinions of some critics, and probably in compliance with his own maturer judgment, Mr. Polwhele has since made considerable alterations. In particular, he has removed the whole Episode of Ellen and Danvert from this poem, with the subject of which it certainly was not very strictly connected; and has printed it apart in the second volume. In some notes subjoined to the poem on Local Attachment, the author vindicates himself from the charge of having copied the Pleasures of Memory, and seems to insinuate that there is more reason to suspect that poem of being taken from an early publication of his own, entitled, "an Epistle to a College Friend."

As we formerly gave a specimen from the larger poem, we shall now confine our notice to the second volume, the contents of which are miscellaneous. The opening of the Poem addressed to Laura, in 1791, has great merit.

"Of life, my Laura, many a faery dream
I cherish'd mid the groves of academe.
'Twas then my comrades with a joyous air
I met, and cried—'Avaunt to felon care.'
Then the strong outline of my hopes I drew,
And fondly nurs'd them as each figure grew;
Sketch'd for my different friends the future plan,
And form'd my systems, as my wishes ran;
Contented crown'd a living with a wife,
Nor mark'd the varied ills that chequer life;

View'd, halcyon-bright, domestic ease appear,
Nor saw pale grief distain it with a tear;
Bade the sweet pledges of affection rise
To melting blushes, and entrancing eyes;
Pictur'd the bliss of love's romantic morn,
And press'd the rosy couch without a thorn!

But ah! too soon, the dear delirium fled!
Too soon I bow'd to care this throbbing head;
While in each scene of vulgar life I found
The hoar frost scatter'd by indifference round;
Where blasts from avarice nip'd young fancy's bloom,
And envy's cloud diffus'd its deadly gloom.
Lo, as impetuous joys began to move
My beating bosom to the pulse of love,
And, as I deem'd the illusive picture true
That brought another Eden to my view;
Misguided friendship aim'd the heavy stroke,
And all the spell of rapturous passion broke!
Alas! tho' now divine content be ours,
I tremble, as I memorize the hours,
When they, to whom my kindred spirit tends,
Whom pure sincerity had stamp'd my friends,
Ah, Laura! bade thee droop thy clouded eyes,
And waste the softness of thy soul in sighs!" P. 29.

The remainder is unequal; and even here we cannot pass without notice the unnatural affection of the author for strange and unusual words. "As I memorize the hours," is not English. From this fault, however, this short poem is remarkably exempt; not so the "Ode to the Spirit of Freshness," an odd and quaint title in itself. This abounds with such instances. In the compass of a very few lines we have "light-sprent," "plume-wet," "moontipt," "slumberous," besides many scattered attempts of the same kind. Certain it is, that Mr. Polwhele is not devoid of poetic spirit; but the bad taste of these affectations operates like a November fog, wherever it recurs, and extinguishes every spark of animation. Such liberties should be taken very sparingly, and with great judgment, or should be totally avoided. Nor would we recommend the author to sport too frequently in the English trochaic, of which we have a very indifferent specimen at p. 33. The following ballad affords a proof how well this writer can succeed when he will condescend to court simplicity.

"SIGHING SUSAN.

Poor Susan cries: "About my breast
There's something *wowndy* tight:
I sigh all day, as one distress'd,
And often sigh at night.

A sigh

A sigh (my neighbours say) to glee
 Was always thought a foe :
 But there is something sweet, good me !
 At least in sighing so !

They ask me, for what cause so oft
 I labour with a sigh ?

" Is it, because your heart is soft ?"
 I'm sure, I cant tell, why.

Yet father says—he knows full well—

" But go, you'll like the task ;

" Ask *William*—he, perhaps, may tell"—
 I think, I'll go, and ask." P. 51.

Mr. Polwhele has much merit as a writer in several different lines ; and, as a poet, we doubt not he will always be improving, since, in several instances, he has shown that he has the good sense to adopt judicious advice.

ART. VIII. *Discourses on different Subjects. By George Isaac Huntingford, D. D. Warden of St. Mary's College, Winchester. Volume the Second. 8vo. 527 pp. 6s. Cadell and Davies. 1797.*

THE general style of Dr. Huntingford's Discourses we characterized on a former occasion*. The appearance of a second volume affords a strong presumption that the first was received as it deserved ; and that the character of the author, joined to the merit of his compositions, obtained that attention from the public which could not easily be better placed. To labour assiduously at the present period, in the cause of virtue, and the defence of religion, is among the highest claims to commendation : to labour with success is a felicity, which does not wait on all of those who deserve the praise of the intention.

The subjects of the present Discourses are in general highly important, and such as it is particularly necessary at this time to enforce with zeal and judgment. As, 2. The Pre-eminence of the Son of God, and that Christ is that Son of God ; 3. The Personality of the Holy Spirit, and the Gifts imparted by Inspiration ; 5. The Consequences of Actions ; 6. Causes

* In reviewing his former volume, *Brit. Crit.* vol. vii, p. 293: which

which make Men dislike Truth ; 12. On Propitiation, Jewish and Christian, &c. But one that, perhaps, more particularly than any other suits the present times, is the 8th, on False Philosophy. So many dangers arise from this fertile source, that cautions cannot be multiplied too much. The subject is introduced by these appropriate remarks.

" On men of ingenuous, but inexperienced minds, there is nothing so imposing as a specious name. To such persons, under the disguise of an assumed appellation, vices recommend themselves with so much success, as to deceive the unwary into a confident opinion* that their conduct is proper, although to judicious observers it appears palpably wrong. And this delusion continues to beguile them, till some unhappy consequence begins to create in them suspicions of error, and at length convinces them that they have been too long mistaken. In private life; some are brought into great distress, from having acted under an idea that inattention to pecuniary concerns was a mark of generosity. Others fall into vicious practices, because easy compliance with every proposal of a companion appears to them a proof of good temper. Others commit irregularities, through a persuasion that to despise the uniformity of rules is an indication of high spirit. Others violate the decencies of politeness, conceiving disregard to forms a sign of superior ability. Then again in public life; many do in reality serve the cause of licentiousness, whilst with the purest intentions they mean only to extend liberty: and many give encouragement to indifference for all religion, whilst they imagine themselves to be promoting only liberality of sentiment. Now in the one case, admirable are generosity, good temper, high spirit, and superior ability: but surely no man in his right senses can say it is admirable, either to bring on himself indigence through imprudent neglect of his property; or to become depraved through weakness in yielding to solicitations; or to injure society by bad example; or to insult established usages of behaviour by an affected impertinence. So in the other case, liberty is precious as life itself; and liberality in thinking and judging is part of Christian charity, than which nothing is more lovely: but surely no man of mature judgment can with genuine liberty be converted into a cloak for every species of enormity; nor liberality of sentiment be made the occasion of propagating direct atheism. Yet in these points of view are to be seen many measures, which upright but misguided men frequently pursue, merely because they do not fully apprehend the tendencies of their actions." P. 202.

The application then follows, that philosophy also is a name abused, and therefore a proper subject for caution. The learned author then adduces upwards of twenty instances in

* Cum sint vicina virtutibus vitia, etiam qui vitiis utuntur, virtutis tamen his nomen imponunt. *QUINTIL. l. viii. c. iii. s. 4.*
This remark is equally true in a moral, as in a critical sense."

which

which the prevalent philosophy of the times is used to proceed upon false principles: and the instances are in general chosen with sagacity, and illustrated with judgment. We shall select one from the number, to explain the mode in which the rest are treated.

“ 16. It is false, in dissembling the difficulties which attend infidelity.

“ In natural religion, it is much more difficult to believe, that the world, formed as it is with design and governed with regularity, should be made and preserved by *chance*, i.e. by *nothing*, than it is to believe that it was made and governed by an Intelligent Being competent to the effecting of so stupendous a work.

“ In revealed religion, it is much more difficult to believe, that Christianity arose from *no certain* ground, than it is to believe that Christ really and actually existed. For to what adequate cause but such existence can it be ascribed, that his life is recorded by four histories, for the country and æra of which we have strong presumptive proof from their style and correspondence with the circumstances of their time; and for the writers of which we have testimonies from the age immediately subsequent to them: to what other cause can it be ascribed that his doctrines should be the subject of many epistles, which by striking coincidences of time and place, and minute particulars, bear singular characters of authenticity; and that passages should be cited from those histories and epistles, and allusions made to them by many authors, who are known to have written at the distance of at least sixteen hundred years from the present date: to what other cause can it be ascribed, that in a vast empire idolatry should have yielded to the establishment of his religion; that many nations have made his principles the basis of their legislation; that for seventeen centuries there has been a succession of men professing themselves his disciples, and that at this day in several countries, civilized and enlightened, is observed a solemn ceremony in commemoration of his death: to what other cause *can* all these effects be ascribed, but to the sole cause which is adequate to account for them, *viz.* the real and actual existence of Christ? Surely it is beyond comparison more difficult to believe that those notorious and extraordinary facts should rest on no other foundation but fiction, than it is to believe that Christ lived, died, and rose again, in the manner related of Him by the Evangelists and Apostles.” P. 231.

The conclusion is thus ably drawn up.

“ It might have been conceived, that philosophy, so prejudicial as well as false, would every where have been holden in the detestation it deserves, did not experience unhappily shew, that it hath influence much too extensive. For the reception it hath found, is to be assigned this cause, *viz.* that it immediately and in the most flattering manner applies to the appetites, which it indulges without restraint; whereas detection of its fallacies, and the cultivation of true philosophy require controul of sensual affections and vigorous exercise of reason. But then on the other hand it is to be remembered, that in the very circumstance of applying itself to the lower faculties of human nature,

and

and indeed commonly to the most ignorant part of mankind, it betrays a consciousness of its own inferiority to that wisdom, which claims the attention of intellect and thought. Groveling therefore as it is, let it be rejected with high disdain by every mind, that feels a commendable pride in being endued with powers not merely brutal, but rational. And those who have not yet perceived by reflection the faculties of their own mind, nor have attained to a due sense of the capacity for improvement with which they are born; such persons will do well, to trust the experience of others, until their own judgment is mature; they will do well, to rely on the veracity of the serious and inquisitive, who after patient research assure them of a truth, that all the paradoxes of false philosophy are but snares of sophistry, calculated to seduce them from maxims of approved excellence, and from principles which have been known and seen to be most salutary, in their tendency to ensure the safety, advance the dignity, and promote the rational happiness of man!" P. 257.

We very highly approve the manner in which this elegant scholar, as well as sound divine, illustrates his Discourses in the notes, by apposite quotations from authors, sacred and profane. This is so performed as to give delight and amusement to the scholar, while it forms not the slightest interruption to the unlearned reader, who in the text finds nothing to impede his progress, or confound his intellect. Some of the Discourses would from the pulpit appear long, but in the leisure of the closet, few judicious readers would wish to have them shortened.

ART. IX. *Mentha Britannica: a new Botanical Arrangement of the British Mints. Illustrated with Twenty-four Copper Plates. By W. Sole. 4to. 56 pp. 1l. 1s. Bath printed; White, London. 1798.*

MR. Sole is an eminent medical practitioner at Bath, and has been long well known as an adept in English botany, and as a diligent cultivator of rare and indigenous plants, for practical, botanical, and medical observation.

We do not recollect that he has published any thing before; but the Monograph now under consideration is an advantageous specimen of his sedulous and accurate research, and does him considerable credit. It includes all the Mints enumerated by Ray and Hudson, together with several new species hitherto unnoticed. The letter-press is elegantly executed by Cruttwell of Bath; and the plates are extremely well engraved by Hibbert, from drawings by several hands.

After

After a judicious criticism upon the figures which former authors have given of Mints, and which in truth are generally bad enough, Mr. Sole very justly remarks, that an entire new set of good plates of the Mints was much wanted; and as he has always been of opinion that good plates are injured by colouring, he has endeavoured to procure such plates as need no colouring.

We apprehend that the world in general will not agree with Mr. Sole in this opinion, coloured plates being now so much in fashion. Much might be said on this subject with good reason on both sides, if we were disposed to enter into the controversy. Mr. Sole, however, has succeeded completely in his choice of artists: the species cannot be mistaken in his representations; his plates would certainly be spoiled by colouring; and the Mints would receive as little advantage from it as any genus of plants whatever.

Mr. Sole observes, that Linnæus has allowed England but ten Mints, whereas Ray has described sixteen; adding, that our island is very fertile in Mints, Merrett having mentioned four besides those which he had given; and both Buddle and Rand having found several others, which, not being accurately settled, Ray judiciously leaves to further investigation.

Our late eminent English botanist, Mr. Hudson, continues this author, observing that Linnæus had totally left unnoticed many of Ray's Mints, and unwilling to have them remain in obscurity, has introduced them as varieties, some in one place, and some in another. The attempt was certainly laudable, but it was not successful (in Mr. Sole's opinion) having tended only to increase the entanglement.

Mr. Sole has adopted the subdivision of the genus into three series, from Linnæus.

1. Spiked Mints, containing eight species.
2. Round-headed, containing four. And,
3. Whorled, containing twelve species.

There is one more Spiked Mint in the Addenda, making up the whole number twenty-four. And, besides these, there is a description of another Round-headed Mint, which, not being figured, is not reckoned among the number.

Mr. Sole concludes his Preface with a wish, that his humble attempt to illustrate the Mints may stimulate some abler botanist to pursue the subject, and render it more complete.

"Having no coadjutor to assist me," says he, "it is very probable there may be many errors and mistakes; and I shall be very thankful for any communications, pointing them out; that, in case a future edition shall be called for, I may be enabled to make it more perfect, unless an abler hand should take up the subject."

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This is said with becoming modesty. Mr. Sole's work has certainly very considerable merit, and yet we doubt, considering the price of the book, and the confined nature of the subject, whether it will ever reach a second edition. Whenever the public shall be favoured with Dr. Smith's elucidation of British plants, Mr. Sole's wish will doubtless be in a great measure fulfilled. The President of the Linnæan Society, together with his own knowledge and experience, possesses advantages which few other men can boast. If Mr. Sole should have erred in erecting varieties into species, or in the difficult task of ascertaining and placing the *synonyma*, no one is more capable of setting him right than that gentleman, and he will do it with no less candour than judgment.

As a specimen of Mr. Sole's manner, we have selected the article on *Mentha sylvestris*, or Strong-scented Mint.

"This plant grows from two feet and a half to three feet in height; its stalks are quadrangular, hairy, upright, and very much branched with flowering sprigs elegantly disposed, each sprig generally terminating in three (and sometimes more) beautiful slender spikes, of whitish red flowers; which are so expanded, that the stamens with their little red anthers or thives, are always in sight, and are longer than the flower; the leaves are wrinkled and downy underneath, and are sleeker, and of a dark green above, the veins are neatly reticulated, and obvious on both sides; the lower leaves are oblong and blunt, the upper leaves are roundish; they are sessile, and are crenated rather than dentated. It has a very strong volatile mixed smell of volatile salt of amber, camphor, and mint.

"This is the true *Menthastrum*, or Wild Horse-Mint of the shops.

"It is now and then found spontaneous in muddy places in high moors; for instance, on a common at Elm Moor, Shropshire, but it is very rare: yet, as an honourable relic of our venerable Gothic ruins, it is very common; as in a close called the Abbey-Warren, at Hinton Abbey in Somerset; in the environs of Abbey-Tintern, S. Wales; at Ragland-Castle, ditto; in a close called the Abbot's Garden, at Glastonbury-Abbey; in a high meadow near Berkeley-Castle; at Wenlock-Abbey, Salop; at the ruins of an old abbey, or castle (I forget which) near the strand at Hollywell; and observed by Mr. Blackstone, in Harefield church-yard; and by Dr. Deering, in the neighbourhood of Nottingham-Castle.

"These habitats sufficiently evince, that the powers of this plant were well understood by the monks, who were in their days the principal physicians; and this knowledge (as soon as literature began [to revive in Europe] was easily acquired from the works of the Arabian physicians, particularly Rhazes, who made great use of this plant. Be this as it may, it certainly is a plant of great virtue, and deserves to be better known than it is at present, being an excellent cephalic, antihysteric, ecplastic, and cardiac simple. I have
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found it of great use in cases of epilepsy and chlorosis; the latter case it most commonly cures in two or three months. I cannot say it has ever cured epilepsy, but it wonderfully refreshes the brain, restores the memory, and takes off the dull stupid languor occasioned by those fits.

"My mode of giving it is this:—Take six drachms of fine powder, made from the green leaves and flower spikes, hastily dried, and with a sufficient quantity of syrup of orange-peel, make an electuary; the quantity of a nutmeg to be taken morning, noon, and night, washing it down with a wine glass of tea made with the same green herb in summer, and of the dried herb in winter. In all cases before I enter upon the use of it, I premise an emetic of ipecacuanha powder, and a scruple of Pil. Rufi, in four pills, to be taken after the emetic the same night.

On the *Mentha viridis*, or Common Spear-Mint, he observes:

"The virtue of this excellent plant, as a cephalic, stomachic, and febrifuge, are so well established by the concurrent testimony of many ages, as to maintain its consequence and repute even at this time, when herbs in general are so unfortunately, and, I may say, unjustly repudiated, that it needs not to be enlarged on here."

Mr. Sole has described and figured three Pepper-Mints. 1. *Mentha Piperita officinalis*, or True Peppermint, which is one of the Spiked Mints, and has lanceolate leaves. 2. *M. piper. vulgaris*, or Common Pepper Mint, which is one of the Round-headed, or Capitata Mints, and has ovate leaves. 3. *M. piper. sylvestris*, Wild or Savage Peppermint, which is one of the Spiked Mints, and has broad, ovate leaves. It is much larger and coarser than the two former, and has a disagreeable goatish smell.

Mr. Sole does not say a word on the medical qualities of Peppermint; probably because they are so well known.

On the Great Water-Mint, which is very common in watery places all over England, the author observes, that

"Tea made of the green leaves is excellent in all nervous and hysterical cases; and wherever wood-foot and Russia castor are useful, the tea of this plant is not only a fine auxiliary, but in cases of need an excellent substitute: I speak this from my own experience.

"Our ancestors, from long before the time of Dr. Turner, to the middle of this present century, held it deservedly in high estimation as a nervous medicine, and made great use of it.

"Tournesfort, in his excellent Institutes, observes, that there is a volatile oily salt in this plant which is very aromatic, stomachic, and diuretic, and that the leaves give out their virtue being made into tea."

Mr. Sole's descriptions are very accurate and significant; we are surprised, however, that he should repeat, in almost every

every one of them, that the stalk is square; this being the common character, not only of the Mints, but of all the plants of the same natural order. We cannot approve of transforming a Latin verb into an English noun, as in the case of *habitat*, for the place of natural growth. These, with a few vulgarisms, and inaccuracies of style, are defects which we remark with reluctance in a work of great general merit.

ART. X. *Religious and Philanthropic Tracts: consisting of*
 1. *A Discourse on the Principles, the Temper, and Duties of Christians; the Second Edition, enlarged:* 2. *An Essay on the State of the Poor, and on the Means of improving it by Friendly Societies, &c.* 3. *Rules for forming and managing Friendly Societies, with a View to facilitate their general Establishment.* By James Cowe, M. A. Vicar of Sunbury, Middlesex. 8vo. 3s. 6d. Rivingtons, &c. 1797.

IN the British Critic for March, 1797, we had occasion to commend Mr. Cowe for his judicious and well-written Discourse. In the Essay he proceeds to state many of the causes which have combined to depress the understandings, and increase the sufferings of the lower classes of society. He suggests, with much liberality, several means for their instruction, improvement, and relief.

The whole is written in a warm and impressive manner, and in a plain and unaffected style, as will appear from the following extracts.

"There is one duty more, deserving particular attention, which remains to be mentioned here; it is, that of promoting mutual affection, and gentleness of manners, in your respective families. Of the sad effects of quarrels and dissensions in private life, we have many melancholy proofs. In the very first age of the world, and among Adam's own sons, we have an awful instance of the dreadful consequence of variance and strife among relations. We find, that Cain entirely stifled his affection for his brother Abel; allowed the rancour of hatred and envy to take full possession of his heart; and at last, with impious hands, became his assassin.—When those, who are connected by the nearest and dearest ties of Nature, once acquire the habit of wrangling and disputing, all their domestic comforts are at an end, their tempers become soured, their peace of mind is ruined:—and thus, by their conduct and "conversation," they too evidently shew, that they are not acting as becometh the Gospel of Christ."

"It was, therefore, the observation of the wise man, "Better is a dinner of herbs, where love is, than a stalled ox, and hatred therewith." The most scanty or the most homely fare, accompanied with domestic

harmony and peace, and with the love of God and virtue, is far more delicious to the taste, and more pleasing to the mind, than the most splendid entertainment, imbibed by discord and strife, by profaneness and vice. You cannot, then, be too careful to regulate your tempers; to promote social affection, good-humour, and cheerfulness of "conversation" in your families; and to instil the same Christian principles into the minds of your children." P. 24.

Speaking of the education of children at p. 28, we have these judicious remarks from Mr. C.

"You should also pay great attention to their health and cleanliness, and to their natural dispositions as they advance in life; and should restrain in them every violent passion, and every propensity to ill-nature, slander, and malevolence. Teach them, I beseech you, to be sober, chaste, and honest; to be attentive to their promises and engagements, and content with their station. Inspire them with a detestation of lying, artifice, and theft; and train them up to the early habits of cheerful industry, and to the regular practice of every social and moral obligation. But, above all, endeavour to impress on their young minds a deep sense of Religion, and of the duties they owe to their God and Saviour. Often remind them, that, though their earthly master may be absent, yet they are under the constant inspection of their *Heavenly Master*, to whom we are all accountable.

"These are very essential duties, which you should not fail to inculcate as far as you are able; and if some of you can give but little instruction in the way of precept, you can all be useful in a still higher degree—*by setting them a good example*. This is a duty peculiarly incumbent on every one who stands in the important and endearing relation of a parent." P. 26.

At p. 53, with a view to promote the domestic comforts of the poor, it is observed,

"It would contribute much to their comfort, and to the preservation of their health, if the agricultural poor had small gardens, in which they could raise beans, pease, potatoes, greens, turnips, and other culinary vegetables; and if lords of manors, and men of affluence, would accommodate their labourers and dependents with neat and commodious cottages, at moderate rents. Many important advantages would result from this scheme, if generally adopted throughout the kingdom; and therefore it cannot be too strongly recommended to the consideration of the higher classes of society. It must be allowed, that it would be the means of augmenting the quantity, and thereby reducing the price of pork, poultry, and fruit. Besides, by increasing the size of a poor man's garden, you add greatly to his comfort and enjoyment; and as, in some parishes, at a distance from populous towns, there is, usually, waste and unproductive land contiguous to the cottages of the peasants, let a small portion of this land be allotted to the industrious labourer, and he will devote his evenings to its cultivation. As an encouragement to industry, and a reward for their services to the state, those who have brought up the most numerous families of children, without pa-

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social aid, might have as much of the waste land appropriated to them as, when cultivated, would enable them to keep a cow.

"The proprietors of land have it much in their power to alleviate the condition of poor farmers and day-labourers; and, by directing and assisting their industry, to render themselves and their dependents happy and useful to each other.

"To a feeling mind, it is distressing to see the miserable cottages of many of the agricultural poor, and to think of the rents they pay for them. Now, if what is here suggested, were carried into general practice, it would be attended with the most beneficial effects: their houses would be more commodious; their mode of living would be more improved; their constitutions would be invigorated; their manners would be rendered more gentle and humane; and sentiments of mutual good-will would be excited among the different ranks of society. To which we may add, that, with these domestic comforts and improvements, the poor would not be so apt to debase their moral faculties by vicious habits, but would acquire a higher sense of character, and would be gradually brought to a more sober and orderly way of life."

The writer concludes his interesting pamphlet with a particular account of the two Friendly Societies at Sundbury; but as the subject is of great and general importance, we recommend a serious perusal of the publication, and particularly to those who, from their local situations, may be enabled "to correct the vices of the poor, to encourage their industry, to alleviate their afflictions, to improve their morals, and thereby lead them progressively on to the higher degrees of civilization, virtue, and happiness."

ART. XI. *A New Abridgment of the Law. By Matthew Bacon, of the Middle-Temple, Esq. The Fifth Edition, corrected with considerable Additions, including the latest Authorities. By Henry Gwillim, of the Middle-Temple, Esq. Barrister at Law. In Seven Volumes. Large 8vo. 5l. 5s. Printed by A. Srahan, Law-Printer to his Majesty; for T. Cadell; C. Dilly; and Others. 1798.*

NEW editions of books are frequently received by the public with at least as much complaint as approbation. The purchaser of the old one sees with regret, that the value of his work is diminished, and that the reward for giving the earliest patronage to the author, is, that he has a worse book than those who purchase more tardily than himself. We believe there is none of this feeling with regard to new editions of law books. These are bought not for amusement, but for use;

use; they are purchased from absolute necessity; this obligation operates as strongly with regard to every new edition, as to the original work. The law is a branch of knowledge that is varying continually; every term, every sitting after term, every circuit, produces something new: these novelties equally interest the whole profession; they are sought with eagerness; and are transferred from one manuscript note-book to another, with the warmest thanks for the communication. If, therefore, any one will be at the trouble to edit an old work with the accession of such new materials as are applicable to the subject of it, he does a service, that is received with gratitude by the professors of the law, and very rarely fails of being rewarded by a general sale.

We think this will be the sentiment, more especially, with respect to the work before us. Bacon's Abridgment is, according to our judgment, by much the most valuable book of this sort. Others have their distinct merits, which render them perhaps more resorted to, under particular circumstances. Comyns's Digest may present a plain proposition for the immediate application of the practitioner, without the difficulties of research requisite in other works. Viner's Abridgment may furnish so full a statement of a case, as to render it unnecessary to recur to the original report. But both these works are limited in their utility; they are fitted only for the practising lawyer, and not at all for the student. On the contrary, Bacon's Abridgment seems to comprehend all the qualities that make it useful both for study, and for reference; for the person who is in search of first principles, and the one who is to apply them to practice. In short, Bacon's Abridgment is a collection of treatises, upon all branches of the law, written in the style of dissertation; a sort of second Blackstone's Commentaries, where the different subjects of that excellent institutional work are enlarged upon, and pursued through their various details; and this is executed in such a manner, as to form a book, that may be taken up and read with satisfaction, which cannot truly be said either of Comyns, or of Viner.

It is well known, that this work was composed from papers which Lord Chief Baron Gilbert left behind him, and which Mr. Bacon digested into the present form. It may be more satisfactory to the reader to hear what Mr. Gwillim has said upon the original composition of the work, in his Preface to the present edition.

"It was the hard fate of the excellent writings of the late Chief Baron GILBERT, to lose their Author, before they had received his last corrections and improvements, and in that unfinished state to be thrust into the world, without even the common care of an ordinary editor.

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Those invaluable tracts were for the most part published not only with all their original imperfections, without any attempt to supply their defects, or explain or correct what seemed in them perplexed or erroneous, but with all the improprieties and inaccuracies which the ignorance and neglect of the amanuenses, whom the Author's infirmities, compelled him to employ, could accumulate upon them.

"Some of those tracts, it is well-known, fell into the hands of the compiler of the present work, and from them the materials of the greater part of it, as far as the title "*Simony*," were collected. Unfortunately, our Compiler had not the most happy dispositions for the work he had undertaken, nor were those parts of the learned Judge's writings which appeared in the New Abridgment much better prepared to meet the publick eye, than the other tracts which had been published by persons to whom chance or an undistinguishing choice had committed the inspection of the press.

"In the course of the work, Mr. *Bacon* seems to have made different use of the materials that lay before him, sometimes taking the tracts at length, sometimes giving only extracts from them: but whether he inserted the whole of any tract, or only a part of it, we have reason to think he inserted it just as he found it. If the Author in different treatises, in order to make each treatise perfect within itself, introduced the same matter conveyed in the same expression, the Compiler implicitly copied it, and under different titles of his work introduced the same passages to the extent of several pages. If the manuscripts were in any part defective, if the subjects were but partially treated of in them, the titles which related to those subjects were left equally defective in the Abridgment. The Compiler seemed to have as little inclination to supply the deficiencies of his Author, as he had sagacity to mark or correct his errors.

"With these defects and redundancies the work has passed through, three subsequent editions; the only anxiety discoverable in the later editors being to crowd it with references to cases inapposite to the point in the text, and which, at the best, had only some relation to remote branches of the general subject." P. iii.

After this account of the work before it came into Mr. Gwillim's hands, he goes on to acquaint us with the method he pursued in preparing the present edition.

"In preparing the present edition for the press, it has been the first care of the editor to retrench what was redundant in the work, and to expunge what appeared to him impertinent. In retrenching, he has substituted reference for repetition; and where the same matter which had occurred under one title seemed naturally to fall under and belong to another, he has referred to the preceding title instead of introducing it again. In expunging, he has not indulged himself in any arbitrary or capricious licence; nor has he presumed to strike out one superfluous authority of a later editor, before he had satisfied himself by careful examination that it had no pretensions to the place it affected to occupy.

"In the original text he has rarely ventured to make any alteration, except where it was manifestly corrupted by the carelessness of the copyist, or of the press, or rendered perplexed by the want of due attention

tion to punctuation. One or two passages indeed, where the meaning could not be collected either from the expression or the references, he thought himself at liberty to expunge. Conjectural emendation is not admissible in a work of this kind; and, he trusts, no man will complain of the loss of nonsense.

"He has attempted to mark, and guard his readers against, the mistakes of the author: but he is sensible that many, too many, erroneous passages have been suffered to pass without observation. In the course of so long a work it cannot be expected that the exertions of the mind should be always equal; or that it should always be alike disposed to proceed in the task it had undertaken. It must occasionally sicken at some parts of the labour as beneath its attention, and shrink from others as beyond its powers. It is well known that the most obvious errors sometimes most easily escape detection. In reading, every man must have felt that his mind is sometimes more attentive to its own preconceptions on the subject, than to the ideas of the author, and the better it is satisfied with the rectitude of the former, the more steadily it pursues them, and the less sensible it is of the aberrations of the latter. The form too in which error presents itself to us may help to facilitate its escape: it is more likely to pass silently and unobserved when proposed in the form of a simple affirmation, than when it challenges our inquiry in that of an interrogation. We often readily admit upon a statement what we should instantly deny, if it were offered to us in the way of question.

"It should be observed, that even where the Editor has detected error, he has not always immediately apprised his reader of it: he has sometimes subjoined his remarks upon the erroneous passage at the end of the division where it has occurred: he has at other times left its confutation to its inconsistency with the better considered and more recent determinations which he has afterwards introduced.

"In the additions he was to make, he found it necessary to prescribe to himself some limitations: he therefore in general attempted no more than to fill up the chasms that were left under those general divisions into which he found the work already disposed, and then to engraft upon the whole the later decisions. He has indeed given two new titles, viz. "*Pisibary*" and "*Set-off*;" and he knows that he might have given others, as the work is at present far from a complete Abridgment of the Law. But he had neither time nor encouragement to go farther. Besides, much of the learning which is wanting, is to be met with in books that are in every one's hand: and what was to have been gleaned from other writings of the same kind, though it might have increased the bulk of the work, would not have added to its intrinsic value, or have done any credit to the industry or integrity of the Editor. If there should be some who complain that more might have been done, there will be others, he fears, who will say, perhaps with more justice, that much of that which has been done might have been spared.

"As the Abridgment is written in the style of dissertation, he has in his additions availed himself largely of those tracts which have been published upon different parts of the Law, and received the approbation of the Profession. He has been in general careful, when-

ever he has made an extract from any of those tracts, to acknowledge the obligation by reference to the work itself. If he has in any instance (and he may have done so in many) neglected to make such reference, the author may be assured, that it was by mere accident or inadvertency, and not from any design to take to himself the credit of another man's labours. But wherever such omission may have been made, let not the author be under any uneasiness: the world will too easily distinguish what properly belongs to the Editor.

“ He thought himself at full liberty to transplant into the work as much of the Chief Baron Gilbert's tracts as he had occasion for: it was in truth only re-uniting disjointed members, many parts of the work itself being only parts of several of those tracts. One of the learned Judge's treatises, viz. the Treatise upon the Doctrine of Remainders, from which the collections in the Abridgment under that title were extracted, he has been enabled to give entire by the kindness of Mr. Hargrave. The manuscript had been purchased by that gentleman at no inconsiderable price; but, disdaining all private considerations where the interests of that profession, of which he is so distinguished an ornament, seemed in any degree concerned, he made a voluntary tender of it to the Editor, as soon as he was informed that he was engaged in preparing another edition of the present work. By this generous act, Mr. Hargrave has highly flattered the editor, and has added one more to the many obligations his Profession was already under to him.

The Editor has been anxious to separate his own additions, and those of preceeding editors, from the original work. Whatever, therefore, he is responsible for is included between crotchets, thus []; whilst the insertions of the other Editors are distinguished by one or other of these marks, *, †, ‡. It is well known, that Mr. Bacon did not live to carry the work any farther than to the title “*Sheriff*,” inclusive, and that the remainder was added by Mr. Serjeant Sayer and Mr. Ruffhead. It was not thought necessary to give any distinguishing marks to this latter part: it seemed sufficient to give this intimation of it.” P. v.

We shall reserve to a future occasion the examination of what the editor has done towards performing the promises held out in his Preface.

(To be continued.)

ART. XII. *Pennant's View of Hindoostan.*

(Concluded from our last, P. 149.)

OUR diligent and entertaining enquirer into the Natural History and local rarities of Hindoostan having finished his tour through its western provinces, commences his progress through

through its eastern division, at the extreme point of **COMORIN**; and, continuing his course along the coast, presents his readers with a rapid but correct sketch of what is most remarkable in the natural appearance of the country, noticing, as he proceeds, the principal cities, the most celebrated pagodas, and most distinguished palaces of the Rajahs who prelide in the districts. Some of his descriptions are accompanied with engravings of the objects described, and, among others, we have a picturesque view of the rock and fortrefs of *Dindigul*. The wild and savage race inhabiting the woods and mountains along this vast tract, are properly described as "*Sylvestres Homines*," and the *Galleries* are probably descendants of those *mountain Satyrs*, which, from the very circumstance of their sylvan residence, mythologized under the name and character of apes, are said to have accompanied the great **RAM** in his conquest of Ceylon, in the first ages of the world (p. 12). Great and deep rivers, lofty and extensive mountains, form the natural barriers of provinces and kingdoms, and, as both abound in India, their course and extent are traced by our geographer with accuracy and precision. The noble river **CAVERI**, which separates the south-eastern district of the peninsula from the Carnatic, and flows by Seringapatam, is stated to run a course of three hundred and fifty miles from its head, in the Ghauts, to the discharge of its waters into the ocean. The next great river is the **COLeroon**, over which we enter the Carnatic, a tract of country which being, as Mr. P. observes, more peculiarly interesting to the British nation, is more minutely considered by him; and his account, containing a summary of both its natural and political history, cannot fail of being an useful and instructive companion to those who may hereafter travel over it, either from curiosity, or in a military capacity. His description of the magnificent pagoda of *Chilambaram* will afford our readers a specimen of the author's agreeable mode of diversifying his page, and enlivening his geography with the history of the massy monumental remains of India.

"The pagoda of *Chilambaram* is the most celebrated for its sanctity of any in *India*; it is placed a little to the south of *Porto Novo*, in lat. 11°. All those on this coast are built on the same plan; a large area of a square form, bounded by a wall fifteen or twenty feet high; within are several temples or chapels, inferior in height to the precinct, as if they were meant to be concealed from vulgar eyes. In the middle of the sides of the wall is one or more gateways, over which is built a lofty tower, of a pyramidal form. That at *Chilambaram* is truncated at top, and finishes with an ornament. The fronts of the towers are adorned with infinite numbers of sculptures, usually of the deities, and their wild history, and oftentimes with animals of various kinds, such as in that at *Madura*. I have seen at Mr. *Anson's* of *Shugborough*,

though, two lions cut in a dark porphyry, brought from this pagoda. Mr. *Jess* says, that it has three precincts, and that the towers are in the inner, and that it has a tank or reservoir of water for the purposes of ablutions; and that the chief deity was kept in a darksome repository.

"In the eruption made by *Ayder Ali* into these parts in 1781, he sang a garrison into this pagoda. It was attacked by Sir *Eyre Coote* on June 18th, who was repulsed with great loss. This misfortune was speedily repaired by the great abilities of our commander. The enemy hemmed him in on one side, the sea on the other. He was threatened with destruction from an army of eighty thousand men, well appointed in all respects, to which he had to oppose only seven thousand, and those in danger of famine from the difficulty of supplies. The fate of India was decided near *Porto Novo* on July 1st. *Ayder*, elate with success, was deaf to the remonstrances of the early genius of *Tippoo Saib*, his eldest son, and offered battle. The disposition and wonderful manœuvres of our commander procured the merited success: a general route ensued, and *Ayder's* troops fled on every side.

"The architecture of these temples varies; those of *Malabar*, and those of *Bengal*, have a different form. The enthusiastic respect paid to the pagodas by the unfeigned piety of the *Indians*, is exemplarily great. Those buildings are of such strength as frequently to induce the *Europeans* to sling small bodies of troops into them, and make them temporary fortresses. Mr. *Orme*, in his second volume, p. 593, gives a plan of the great pagoda of *Chilimbaram*, as it was designed to be fortified by the *French* in the most regular manner, which was actually begun, and this beautiful pile most horridly deformed, by projecting redoubts, much changed from the beautiful representation given by Mr. *Sonnerat*, in vol. i. tab. 61; all the pagodas on this coast are said by Mr. *Orme* to have been built on the same plan. Whether the *English* treat these sacred places with less respect than other *Christian* nations, I do not know; but when they occupied that of *Acheveram*, five miles south-west of the neighbouring *Devicotta*, the possession had nearly proved fatal to the whole detachment. This pagoda had been, in the war of 1749, surrendered to a detachment of our troops by the *Brahmins* on the first summons. The *Tanjarine* army, which happened to be in the neighbourhood, inspired with horror at the pollution, made a desperate attack on the place with five thousand men: neither their obedience to their prince, or their notions of military honor, would have inspired them with like courage. After attempting to burn the gates, and to scale the wall with ladders during the whole night, they were repulsed with the loss of three hundred men by the little garrison of one hundred *English*. Our people knew they fought for their lives; had the pagoda been taken, every man would have been put to the sword, for the profanation of the sacred place." P. 26.

As a specimen of our author's attention to the natural history of the peninsular regions, so very little explored hitherto, we insert the following passage:

"As

" As I have mentioned very few birds on the western side of the *Indooslan* continent, I shall intermix the most curious species with those of the *Coromandel* side.

" A most elegant species of *Cockatoo*, white, with the under side of the crest crimson, and of the size of a raven, begins to make its appearance about *Guzerat*, and is said to inhabit many parts of *India*. They are common, according to *Mandelsloe*, Book i. p. 34, in the forests and beautiful avenues of coco-trees about *Amcdabad*, which are quite animated with monkeys and parrots of various kinds. These are called *Kakatuas*, from their note; are very familiar, easily tamed, and taught to speak: they breed in great numbers in even the cities of *India*; the buildings of which are frequently so intermixed with trees, that the traveller scarcely discovers the streets till he has got into them. The *Cockatoos* are so domesticated, as to make their nests under the eaves of the houses undisturbed by the haunt of men; they are not confined to the continent, but extend as far as *Amboina*.

" The Hornbill of *Gingl*, *Sonnerat*, ii. tab. cxx. has the accessory bill incurvated like the lower, and sharp pointed. It is said to feed on rice and fruits.

" The second species is found on the *Malabar* coast. The accessory bill is oblong, convex at top, and rounded at each end.

" The Bee-eater of *Coromandel*, *Sonnerat*, ii. tab. cix, is remarkable for its almost uniform pale yellow.

" In this country are four species of partridges; my friend Mr. *Latham*, or *Sonnerat*, must be consulted for their descriptions. The *Indian*, *Sonnerat*, ii. tab. xcvi. *Latham*, iv. p. 752. The *Gingi*, *Sonn.* p. 169. *Latham*, iv. p. 773. *Pondicberry*, *Sonn.* p. 165, and the little quail of *Gingi*, *Sonn.* p. ii. 172. *Latham*, iv. 789. The colors, or their dispositions, is in most of them very elegant.

" Among aquatic birds are the common crane, *Br. Zool.* ii. App. p. 534, and the beautiful *Indian* crane, *Edw.* tab. 45. The *Coromandel* heron, a small white species, with the back of the head and neck, and fore part of the neck of a fine pale yellow; and finally, the violet heron, *Latham*, v. 97. *Pl. Enl.* tab. 906, in length about three feet, entirely of a bluish black, glossed with violet, except the space from the eyes to the breast, which is of a snowy whiteness.

" *Le Bec-ouvert* of *Pondicberry*, *Pl. Enl.* tab. 932, and that of *Coromandel*, *Sonn.* ii. tab. cxxii. *Latham*, v. 83, are common on this coast. They do not exceed fifteen inches in length: the first is wholly white, except the back, and the primaries and secondaries, which are black: the other has a white back, the crown spotted with black, and chin, and space between the bill and eyes, of the same color: the bill is the character of the genus. It is long, like the herons, but from the tip half way its length, the mandibles recede from each other, and leave an open space.

" The long-legged Plover, *Br. Zool.* ii. No. 209, is common to *England*, the *West Indies*, and this country.

" The *Cursorius Asiaticus*, *Latham*, *Index. Ornith.* ii. p. 751, and *Syn. Av.* v. 217. *Pl. Enl.* tab. 859, is a rare bird, found here.

" Here are met with the *Porphyrio*, *Latham*, v. 253, and some other gallinules; to be traced in the rude attempts to figures on the *Indian* and *Chinese* papers.

" Tha

"The Black Skimmer, *Art. Zool. ii. No. 445. Latbam, vi, 347.* is common to *North America* and the *Coromandel* coast,

"Among the ducks I shall only mention the *Coromandel, Latbam, vi. 556. Pl. Enl. tab. 949, 950.*" P. 40.

The information contained in the subsequent extract is of a very curious and interesting kind to those who are engaged in the investigation of geological subjects; as it is an additional proof, to many that have already been adduced, of some dreadful convulsion having, in very remote periods, desolated the southern continent of India: the same perhaps that rent Ceylon from the main land, and broke into fragments the innumerable islands called Maldivian.

"Far to the west of *Madras* are a chain of hills, often interrupted, which begin about the same distance from *Gingi*; the last are formed of immense rocks detached, and seemingly placed on each other by human art, and intermixed are several of the strong forts of the natives. In the neighbourhood of *Pondicherry* they are formed of decomposed *feldt-path* and ferruginous matter; within them are vast grottos, which have been by the *Indians* formed into *Pagodas*, supported by columns, probably like those of *Elephanta*. What is very singular is, that on these mountains, now destitute of every mark of vegetation, are found vast trees, wholly petrified, lying in all directions across the ravines; and some, so as to form bridges over those chasms. Those trees are now of the same materials as the rocks themselves; they prove that this tract had once been well wooded, and that by some mighty convulsion they were totally reversed, their bowels cast up into the face of the day, the powers of vegetation denied, and the trees left to receive the petrific juices, preservative to the end of time, memorial of the mighty phenomenon: for these and many other notices we are obliged to *M. Sonnerat*, who passed over *India* with the spirit of a true philosopher." P. 91.

The next great boundary-river on the eastern side of the peninsula, is the *Kishna*, or *Kistna*, which receives into its bosom a thousand inferior streams; rushing down from the lofty *Gbaunts*. The provinces through which it passes, and the great and ancient capitals which it washes, are described in order, and with sufficient amplitude for the plan of the work, which it should ever be considered is but an *outline*, though a bold one. Many very entertaining narrations are intermixed, taken from authentic writers, mostly of a modern date; the natural history of birds, beasts, and plants, is continued at intervals; and at length leaving the coast of *Coromandel*, we are ushered into what *Mr. P.* judiciously calls *GANGETIC HINDOOSTAN*, or the region watered by the *Ganges*. Here new and still more interesting objects arise for consideration in the extensive field of nature, and in the expanding circle of arts and antiquities. Our author presents his readers with an ample description of
that

that mighty river, traces it to its distant source in Thibet, and enumerates the various cities and magnificent pagodas that adorn its banks. In the same manner he gradually and scientifically leads us along the wandering banks of the Jumna; discusses the ancient and present state of things; alternately excites our wonder and our pity; points out the places of battles, the successive scenes of glory and of defeat to Hindoos, Mahomedans; and Europeans; and impresses the reflecting mind, as he recounts their varied history, with the awful lesson of human vicissitude. In speaking of the navigation of the *Sunderbund*, or vast forest at the mouth of the Ganges, Mr. Pennant has entered into a very valuable history of what he calls the *Zoology of the Woods*, of this part of India. It is the result of the private information of Sir Elijah Impey, Mr. Middleton, and others; and, from the little knowledge which we have of any of the animals, except tygers, which tenant that dreary recess, three hundred miles in extent, its publication cannot fail of affording the Indian naturalist great pleasure. It extends from p. 155 to p. 166. In discussing the source of the Ganges, our author has been enabled, by the assistance of Mr. Diniell, the most recent European traveller in that region of Asia, to correct some errors of his predecessors. We think it material to make these corrections known, as Mr. Pennant's book may not fall into the hands of all our readers connected with Asiatic concerns.

"An immense desert, little known, originates immediately to the north of the fountains of the *Ganges*; I may say to that of the *Indus*; in about Lat. $37^{\circ} 30'$; its course is north-easterly between Long. $74^{\circ} 45'$, and 105° east, bounding or dividing part of *Hindostan*, *Thibet*, western *Tartary*, *Targu*, and the *Monguls*, and ends in Lat. $49^{\circ} 20'$; at the lake *Dalay nor*, in *Chinese Tartary*; the whole extent is not less than two thousand three hundred and ninety-seven miles. It is named the *Gobi*, and by the *Chinese*, *Shamo* and *Han Kai*. It consists of sands unstable and tremendous as those of *Arabia*, which would be impassable had not nature placed across them, at very remote distances, three chains of hills, or narrow tracts of solid ground, the roads which travellers must take; and amidst this ocean were pleasant valleys, entirely insulated by the sand. Occasionally, in the middle ages, these roads were the passage which merchants took, either from the countries bordering on the *Caspian Sea*, or from *Europe* itself, as their business might call them through *Tartary* and *Bucharia* into *India*, or the distant *China*. As the traveller in antient times advanced as far eastward in the great *Tartarian* as the desert of *Lop*, the terrible scenery laid hold of their fancies; they were terrified with the delusion of dæmons which haunt these dreadful deserts: they imagined themselves to be called by their names by voices familiar to them, till they were brought to the edge of some precipice; or at times they were recreated with the sound of aerial music." P. 162.

"A little beyond *Latac*, the river suddenly bends towards the south-east, and after near a hundred miles course, receives the branch of the *Ganges* which flows from the lake *Lanken*: the course still continues inclining to the east; it passes through a gap in the *Himmaleh* chain, which forms the *Gangoutra* just mentioned; this word signifies a cascade of the *Ganga* or *Ganges*.

"The river from hence is called the *Baghyretty*; it passes along the western foot of the great chain, through the fertile *Rajahship* of *Sirinagar*, environed with lofty wooded mountains; the trees very large, on this side covered with those of the country only; on the other with *European* trees, such as oak, walnut, cherry, peach, raspberry, &c. &c. Many of the hills are very high, of a sugar-loaf shape, covered with a smooth and verdant turf, and have a flatted top; they rise to a great height one above the other, and are crowned on the summit of each with a village. From the summit Mr. Daniell saw the *Glaciers* of *India*, which made a most majestic and awful appearance even at the distance of a hundred and fifty miles. The ice rises often into lofty spires on the grandest of scales; the light sides were stained in the most elegant manner with a roseate color. Another great river, called the *Alucmundra*, which rises far amidst the mountains of *Thibet*, joins the *Baghyretty* at *Deuprag*. Here Mr. Rennel, on the authority of Mr. Daniell, places a middle *Gangoutra*. A few miles below the city of *Sirinagar* it assumes the name of *Ganges*, and retains it the rest of its course: it flows through the remainder of *Sirinagar* to *Hurdwar*, where it rushes through another *Gangoutra*, through a gap in the *Sewalic* chain, unheard of before, till pointed out to us by the investigation of Mr. Daniell. As to the *Alucmundra*, he represents it as a river confined through a rocky channel only a hundred yards wide, and of immense rapidity, and crossed by rope bridges of peculiar contructions.

"Mr. Daniell's travels in this part of *Hindostan* were attended with great difficulties, but with all the pleasure that must attend the elegant mind of the fine artist. In this part of his journey he crossed the *Ganges*, in about Lat. $28^{\circ} 30'$ to *Sumbrul*; easterly to *Darunagbur*, *Afadgar*, *Nejigabad*, and the *Hurdwar*; from thence he returned through the forest at the foot of the *Sewalic* mountains to *Loldong*, continued his arduous route to *Condorwar Ghaut*, entered the pass there, and made a six days journey over the mountains to *Sirinagar*. What a feast may the public expect of intellectual and visual entertainment from the production of a pencil, of which they have had already a taste so fully satisfactory." P. 164.

Mr. P. afterwards traces, with equal minuteness, the course of the still mightier *Burrampooter*, and travels with Mr. Saunders and Mr. Bogle, their latest explorers, through the lofty regions of *Thibet*, *Bootan*, and the adjoining kingdoms on that eastern frontier of *Hindostan*; accompanying his description with two very grand and picturesque views of the romantic country described; mountains whose lofty summits are covered with eternal snow, while their sides are black with forests of

of the most stately trees, that have never probably felt the ax, and are coeval with the creation. Such is the entertainment which Mr. Pennant has prepared for the public taste. It consists of a variety of dishes, highly seasoned with the rich spices of India; and our naturalist has also served up a *desert* from its luxurious garden, upon which we have no doubt the curious in its produce will banquet with unfatiated appetite.

ART. XIII. *An Inquiry into the Nature and Origin of Mental Derangement; comprehending a concise System of the Physiology and Pathology of the Human Mind; and a History of the Passions, and their Effects.* By Alexander Crichton, M. D. Physician to the Westminster Hospital, and Public Lecturer on the Theory and Practice of Physic, and on Chemistry. Two Vols. 8vo. 12s. Cadell and Davies. 1798.

THE task the author has imposed upon himself is one of the most difficult that could have been selected from the whole range of human science; it is what has never yet been completely performed, as he rightly observes; nor, in our present state of knowledge, does it seem to be within the scope of human power to accomplish it. For where will the man be found who is capable, to use our author's words, Preface, p. 9,

"Of abstracting his own mind from himself, and placing it before him, as it were, so as to examine it with the freedom, and with the impartiality of a natural historian; to take a calm and clear view of every cause which tends to affect the healthy operations of the mind, and to trace their effects; to go back to childhood, and observe how the mind is modelled by instruction?"

And yet,

"He who cannot do this," the author goes on to say, "will never proceed farther in knowledge than what he has acquired by books, or by tuition; and how very limited this knowledge is, in regard to the pathology of the human mind, need not be mentioned."

If the author therefore has failed in accomplishing this object, no blame will attach to him on that account; he has failed where no one has, or perhaps ever will succeed; and as some benefit may incidentally arise from the attempt, for that advantage, which is by no means trifling, he will be entitled to thanks. Previous to entering on his subject, the author gives an account of irritability and its laws. This occupies the first chapter, and fills 52 pages. But as irritability has been largely
treated

treated of by Brown, Darwin, and other late writers, and as we perceive little new on the subject, we shall pass to chapter the second, which treats of sensibility.

The impressions made by external objects on our frame, are, according to our author, of three kinds, or rather have three stages. The impression on the extremity of the nerves, a correspondent or consequent impression thence made on the brain, and the impression made by the brain on the mind. The first the author calls nervous impression; the second sensorial impression; the third mental perception. As impressions are communicated from the extremities of the nerves to the sensorium, and thence to the mind, so the mind acting on different parts of the sensorium, puts in motion those parts of the body whose action depends upon the part acted upon. The author next inquires into the manner in which external bodies act in producing nervous impression. After examining the different theories that have been promulgated on this subject, he concludes that it is by means of a fluid contained in the nerves, but does not think it necessary that this fluid should possess any remarkable tenuity or fineness (p. 67), as those authors supposed, who imagined it might be æther, or the electric fluid; neither does he think it must necessarily be contained in tubes or vessels, it is sufficient that it be continued from one extremity to the other of the nerve; neither is it necessary that the particles of this fluid should be in actual contact, or touch each other, it is sufficient that they be so disposed as to be each of them sensible of any impulse given to the particle before or behind it. This fluid is supposed to be secreted by the brain, and to be the medium through which all impressions are communicated, from the extremities of the nerves to the sensorium, and thence to the mind. The difference in our sensations by which we distinguish one object from another, arises from the varied and different impressions made by external objects on the extremities of the nerves. As this fluid must be wasted or expended by long continued action, or recruited by rest, and added nourishment, hence sensibility may be weakened or diminished, increased or accumulated, in the same manner as irritability is found to be. Next follow dissertations on the senses of taste, smell, touch, hearing, and seeing. These are examined and explained with considerable ingenuity, but will not bear being compressed into such a space as would suit our miscellany. We shall pass therefore to chapter the third, p. 110, which treats of the sense called *cænesthesis*, or self feeling. This includes all the impressions made, or sensations felt, from the action of bodies of any

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kind

kind upon the extremities of the nerves of the stomach, liver, bladder, uterus, &c. whether such sensations be pleasing or painful. When the stomach is satisfied, and the organs of the body are in a healthy and sound state, we are cheerful, alert, lively; when the contrary, dull, heavy, melancholy. For this part the author acknowledges himself to be indebted to Mr. Hubner, and other German writers, who have treated the subject at considerable length. The same object is continued through the next chapter to p. 136; and the arguments, illustrated with examples, the last of which, from Meibomius de usu flagrorum, as it was not necessary to explain the author's ideas, and is extremely indelicate, might have been omitted. Having got over this preliminary matter, the author proceeds, in chapter the fifth, "to give a methodical inquiry into the nature and physical causes of delirium, particularly the delirium of lunatics."

"All delirious people," he observes, "differ from those in a sound mind in this respect, that they have certain diseased perceptions and notions, in the reality of which they firmly believe, and which consequently become motives of many actions and expressions which appear unreasonable to the rest of mankind;"

and which we presume the author means to say, are actually extravagant and unreasonable. The author thinks the term diseased perceptions, or notions, better than erroneous notions, which other writers have used; "because," he says, p. 138, "the ideas in all kinds of delirium whatever arise from a diseased state of the brain or nerves, or both." That is, the instrument or organ being diseased, every thing proceeding from it must be so likewise. This seems reasonable; but marks of injury have been found in the brains of persons who never were delirious or maniacal; and the brains of persons who have died maniacal, have been found to be very little altered from a healthy state, or the diseased appearances have been such, as seemed rather the effects than the cause of the delirium. The term erroneous also appears more applicable to perverse and wrong ideas than diseased, which seems to require a substratum, or something more substantial than a notion for its habitation. Having settled the definition of delirium, and considered it in its various modifications, as it appears in different persons, the author proceeds to investigate its cause. This he thinks consists in the diseased action of the fibrils of the brain, or, to use his own words, p. 168, "it must arise from a peculiar morbid action of the vessels which secrete nervous matter, especially the fluid in question." Nervous diseases, and maniacal affections, have always been ranked among them;

them; have, at all times, been attributed to something injuring the brain, and thence disturbing its functions, or to some depravity of the nervous fluid, our author, adopting the modern physiology, thinks they should be attributed to "a specific diseased action of the fine vessels which secrete the nervous fluid in the brain." P. 174. In the same manner, we presume, as one species of diseased action is supposed to produce scrofula, another to propagate syphilis, &c. If our author thinks he has a clear notion of what he means by a specific diseased action, we have no objection to his using the term, but we see no relation between the cause and the effect; that is, we can no way conceive or account, why any modification of action or motion in the fibrils of the brain, should make one man imagine he sees bears, lions, or devils, rushing upon him, or another conceive that his father, brother, or wife, intend to poison or stab him. We must also observe, that neither the existence of a nervous fluid, or of the specific action of the fibrils of the brain, here contended for, have been, or, we believe, are capable of being demonstrated.

Chapter the sixth contains the history of hypochondriasm. The seat of this disease is generally found to be in the stomach, or some other of the abdominal viscera, and it is occasioned by a morbid sensibility of the nerves.

"It is also often brought on," our author observes, p. 200, "by affections of the mind; such as deep and long continued grief and melancholy. These mental affections produce hypochondriasis, by creating a disorder in the stomach and intestines, and in the nervous system; so that in every instance it arises either directly or indirectly from this source."

Accounting for the illusions of hypochondriacs, the author observes, p. 208,

"That the sources of almost all our perceptions, while we are in health, lies in external objects; for the nerves of the external senses are the only ones of our whole frame which convey clear impressions to the intellectual part. Hence we acquire a natural habit of ascribing all strong impressions to some external cause. In cases, therefore, where the cause of the sensation cannot be examined, a false judgment may easily arise. The languor and pain, and various uneasy sensations which a hypochondriac feels, naturally withdraw his attention from surrounding objects; and as the exercise of his judgment is weakened by the same circumstances, he does not examine the unreasonable ideas with accuracy when they are first presented to his mind. Painful feelings are associated with melancholy thoughts; and new and uncommon feelings, upon the same principle, are ascribed to strange and uncommon causes. The weakness therefore which a hypochondriac feels in his limbs, makes him imagine they are unable to support him; but if they cannot do so, he concludes they must bend or break; the idea of fragility or flexibility however is often derived from such substances

as wax and glass, and he therefore believes that his limbs are made of similar materials."

This chapter is concluded with a variety of apoplectic cases, which illustrate this explanation.

The second book contains the natural history of the mental faculties, with descriptions of the diseases to which they are subjected. In the first chapter of this book, the author shows that mind or spirit is something distinct from body or matter, by nearly the same arguments Mr. Locke has used; which he farther illustrates, by introducing examples of persons far advanced in years, whose bodies were enervated, but whose minds still preserved their full vigour and energy, which could not happen, he thinks, if they were one and the same substance. In the next chapter the author treats of attention and its diseases.

"When any object of external sense or of thought, occupies the mind in such a degree that a person does not receive a clear perception from any other, he is said to attend to it. *The principle that is excited in his mind by a perception or thought, is commonly called the faculty of attention; a faculty,*" the author goes on to observe, p. 254, "which may be justly said to be the parent of all our knowledge."

We cannot help here noticing, that the author treats of attention prior to perception, which latter is the subject of the next chapter; and yet it is evident, an object must be perceived before we can attend to it. There seems an impropriety in calling attention a faculty, as it implies the exercise of all the faculties of the mind conjointly. When a person is said to be attentive or to pay attention to an object, we mean he considers, thinks, or reflects upon it, examines it, investigates its properties, compares it with other objects, to find its affinity or discrepancy. To keep the mind fixed upon an object as it at first presents itself, without considering its qualities, relations, and dependencies, is rather a mark of idiotism than of sanity. Children and persons of weak understanding do not attend, because they are incapable, or not used to reflect. And this seems consonant to our author's idea of attention, as he calls it "the parent of all our knowledge."

Chapter the third treats of mental perception and its diseases.

"When an object acts on any of the nerves which supply the organs of external sense, and our attention is not strongly engaged at the time by any other object, we immediately become conscious of the presence of the external body, and we obtain a mental perception, or representation of it."

As Doctor Reid entertained different ideas of the manner in which external objects are represented to the mind, so those laid down in this work, our author thought it necessary to examine

mine his opinion, and then to show that the mode by which he has explained that operation, is consonant to the doctrine of Aristotle, and is the same as that on which Locke, Hume, and other later metaphysical writers have founded their systems. The diseases to which mental perception are liable, according to our author, are idiotism and vertigo.

"Idiotism, whether congenital or accidental, is generally the offspring of a faulty conformation of the bones of the cranium or of the brain, or of some injury done to those parts (p. 315). Vertigo arises whenever mental representations and ideas crowd involuntarily and in too quick succession."

The causes are either internal, as some defect in the faculty of attention; or external, as when it is the consequence of disease, as fever, hæmorrhage, epilepsy, indigestion; wind or worms in the stomach and bowels may also occasion it. The manner in which these several causes operate in producing this disease, is ingeniously explained.

Chapter the fourth treats of memory, and its diseases or defects. Memory is distinguished into recognition and recollection;

"By the first we are made conscious that objects which are accidentally renewed, have formerly been present to our mind or senses. The other is a more active process, and consists in an effort to recal a former perception, part of which only is present to our mind. The act of recollection is entirely dependent on the association of ideas."

Having assigned this cause, the author enters into a discussion of the principles of association, and examines the opinions of Lord Kames, Dr. Gerard, Campbell, Stewart, &c. on this subject. In what manner objects are imprinted on the memory is necessary. That perceptions do not leave any mark or impression on the brain, our author thinks is plain from hence, that the brain is not capacious enough to bear the innumerable legions of impressions that must, in that case, be imprinted, and that it would be impossible to prevent one impression from obliterating another. But as all perception is made through the medium of the nerves and brain, when those organs are injured, their power of receiving impressions either from objects without, or from the mind within, is proportionably diminished. That the memory is frequently impaired by disease, is no proof therefore, as it has been pretended, that marks or impressions are made on the brain by our perceptions. "Such facts," our author adds, p. 359, "only prove that the ideas, when they are renewed in the mind, do not produce their sensorial effect."

That

That ideas may exist in our minds without being noticed by us, is what we must admit, as memory or recollection is the calling forth, or reviving such ideas. But that ideas may be renewed, or revived in our minds, without our being conscious of them, is what we cannot comprehend. And yet this is what the author must mean, when he says, "they are renewed without producing their sensorial effect;" that is, without being perceived. The causes which may impair or entirely abolish memory, are next recited; and some singular instances of impaired memory adduced. To these succeed further observations on the association of ideas, p. 384. To improper associations the author attributes the custom of suicide among the old Romans, and of duelling amongst ourselves; that is, from associating, under the terms honourable and disgraceful, ideas which ought not to enter into their composition.

The next and last chapter in this volume, treats of judgment and its perversion or defects. The author's opinion of judgment, that it is dependent on memory, and on the faculty of comparing present with past objects, circumstances, and events, and, consequently, that the person who has had most experience, provided he is capable, or has accustomed himself to observe, compare, and retain in his memory what he has perceived, will have the soundest judgment, are facts that no one will controvert or oppose. Also, that where wrong associations are made, and we suffer our prepossessions, passions, and interests to interfere, the result or judgment will necessarily be perverse and improper. We could have wished the author had not brought as an instance of perverted judgment, the decision in a cause in which he was certainly more interested than the learned judges who presided, and his judgment certainly more likely to be warped. The whole of this chapter is however ingenious, and will be read with pleasure.

The second volume begins with a discourse on imagination, and its diseases. This term is used, our author thinks, with too great latitude, as it not only is made to include

"the figures and phantoms of our dreams, the enchanting scenery and pictures we form when we build castles in the air, the reveries of the insane, &c. but *proh dolor!* the many active, voluntary, and complex operations of the understanding, are also called by the same name; as, for instance, he says, the genius of a painter, poet, sculpture, or novel writer."

As the diseases of imagination and of genius appear to spring from the same source, we shall pass to the next chapter, which has for its title, "On Genius, and the *mental Diseases* to which it is most exposed." Why the author calls them the
mental

mental diseases of genius, we cannot tell. The appellative seems improper, and in our author peculiarly so, as through the whole of his work he attributes mental aberration, and we think very properly, to disorder in the brain and nerves.

"Although every part," he says, p. 25, "of the human body which acts, and which suffers action, may be strengthened and improved by a due degree of exercise, yet we know from experience, that when the exercise is continued too long, or is made to consist of a repetition of violent exertion, much mischief and danger generally ensues; the texture of the part suffers a considerable, though not an apparent change, and great disorder and debility follow. This observation applies equally to the brain as to every other part of our frame, whether we consider it a part acting on the mind by means of impressions from external objects, or as acted on by the mind, as is the case in every effort of the memory, judgment, imagination, passion, &c."

That is, whether objects from without act upon the extremities of the nerves, or the mind acts upon their origin in the brain; if the impulse is repeated, and continued for too long a time, the organ will at length be injured, and be no longer able to give faithful reports of the impressions it receives. Hence from too intense study, or from meditating too long on abstruse and difficult subjects, men may become insane. Injuries done to the brain or nerves from other causes, as by fevers, convulsions, long watchings, blows, sudden frights, &c. may produce similar effects. Among the examples the author adduces of persons labouring under disease of the genius, is that of the poet Tasso, who imagined he was visited by a familiar spirit. The story is well known. Persons so affected have frequently the entire command of their reason on every subject, except that on which they rave. Diseases of volition follow.

"Observation teaches us," the author says, p. 67, "that the will is excited by corporeal sensations of pleasure and pain, by the passions, by certain judgments or conclusions, which arise from the comparing of thoughts."

But as our passions have always in view the removal of something that excites our aversion, or the procuring of something we desire, and as the decision or preference we give one idea to another, is probably guided by the same motive, he supposes the removal of pain or procuring of pleasure, is what constantly stimulates or excites the will into action.

"Volition now and then fails," he says, p. 82, "to produce its full corporeal effect, from various diseased states of the brain, or nerves, or from the influence of some powerful sensorial impression, counteracting those of volition."

Several

Several cases are related from the *Psychological Magazine*, in proof of this position, and among them the following.

"A young lady, an attendant on the Princess of — after having been confined to her bed for a great length of time, with a violent nervous disorder, was at last, to all appearance, deprived of life. Her lips were quite pale, her face resembled the countenance of a dead person, and her body grew cold. She was removed from the room in which *she died*, was laid in a coffin, and the day of her funeral was fixed on. The day arrived, and according to the custom of the country, funeral songs and hymns were sung before the door. Just as the people were about to nail on the lid of the coffin, a kind of perspiration was observed to appear on the surface of her body. She recovered. The following is the account she gave of her sensations, "She said it seemed to her, as if in a dream, that she was really dead; yet she was perfectly conscious of all that happened around her. She distinctly heard her friends speaking and lamenting her death at the side of the coffin. She felt them pull on the dead-clothes, and lay her in it. This feeling produced a mental anxiety which she could not describe. She tried to cry out, but her soul was without power, and could not act on her body. She had the contradictory feeling as if she were in her own body and not in it at the same time. It was equally impossible for her to stretch out her arm or to open her eyes, as to cry, although she continually endeavoured to do so. The internal anguish of her mind was at its utmost height, when the funeral hymns began to be sung, and when the lid of the coffin was about to be nailed on. The thought that she was to be buried alive was the first which gave activity to her soul, and enabled it to operate on her corporeal frame."

This is certainly a very curious fact; but as the motion of the heart and lungs, which appear to have been suspended, are not under the command of the will, it is not very properly introduced as an instance of suspended volition.

An analysis of human actions, which appear to be excited by desire or aversion, follows. It would be useless to dilate upon this subject, or to adduce proofs of our being excited to search for food by the stimulus of hunger, or of clothes, and a convenient lodging or habitation, by the distress we feel from cold and moisture. To the same source may be traced our passions of joy and grief, anger, fear, love. On each of these the author treats distinctly. When the object exciting any of these affections becomes firmly fixed in the mind, it may prove the cause of insanity, for the same reason as was given under the head of diseases of genius.

From this brief, but yet, we trust, sufficiently comprehensive view we have taken of this work, it will appear, that the author has expended much time, and employed much labour in collecting his materials, and that he has explained some of the affections of the mind, as depending on a diseased state of the nerves, in a way equally novel and ingenious. Whether our
knowledge

knowledge of the manner in which ideas or perceptions are communicated to the mind will be at all advanced by his hypotheses, or whether it may be added to the numerous and unsatisfactory speculations that have before appeared on the subject, we shall not determine. Of the probable utility of the work, in a medical way, we shall form no conjecture, until we see some further communication from the author on the subject, which from some expressions he seems to be meditating. We shall therefore only add, that notwithstanding the objections we have offered to particular parts, we have received much pleasure and information from perusing these volumes; and hope the author, who has certainly well considered the subject, will meet with sufficient encouragement to induce him to complete his plan.

ART. XIV. *A Sermon, preached in the Chapel of the Foundling Hospital, June 2, 1798, on the Consecration of the Colours presented by the Right Honourable Lady Loughborough to the Bloomsbury and Inns of Court Association, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Cox. By T. Willis, LL. D. Rector of St. George's, Bloomsbury. Published by Request. 4to. 24 pp. 1s. Cadell and Davies. For the Benefit of the Foundling Hospital. 1798.*

AS the present contest is, on the part of our enemies, no less a war against Christianity than against Great Britain, we feel it a point of duty, to bring forward to particular notice, some of those sacred orators, who have employed their talents with success to confirm and animate the patriotic efforts of their fellow-citizens. The consecration of colours, when the object of the war is to resist those who would banish even the name of Christ from our lips, is an act of no superfluous piety. It marks that which, in every scene of the present war, ought to be made as prominent as possible, the zeal of those who take arms, to defend the faith which we have received from sound testimony, as well as the constitution which has been delivered to us by our ancestors. Our associated brethren go forth, as the present excellent preacher says, at once with the spirit and resignation of Joab. "Be ye," said he, "of good courage—let us behave ourselves valiantly for our people, and for the cities of our God; and let the Lord do that which is righteous in his sight;" and Joab, he reminds us, was victorious.

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The following sentiments are so truly honourable to the preacher, as well as to the persons addressed, that we cannot hesitate to give them a place in our pages.

" Thus in the midst of all our present dangers, whether spiritual or temporal, it is a source of unspeakable hope to behold an example so honourable and animating as that, which now presents itself before us. When men like yourselves, conversant with the laws of your country, stand independently and ardently forward in its defence, we receive not only a faithful pledge of the virtue and bravery of its people, but we behold also an indisputable testimony of the value of that Constitution, which you so nobly resolve to maintain. And when also we observe men " dignified by their station, renowned for their power, and giving counsel by their understanding," bestowing honorary gifts on your zeal, and directing them to be solemnly dedicated to God, we are reminded by this sacred designation, that " victory is of the Lord." And thus are we disposed to beg a blessing of God upon them, yourselves, and your services; upon them as being now humbly and piously dedicated to him, by having been solemnly offered and received at his holy altar. Let us beseech him then, that as they are thus consecrated to his service, they may through his providence tend to your honour and the nation's glory. When we see the Religion of a Country thus dictating, with so much decorum and solemnity, pious and noble acts to God, and submitting all to him, we are induced to trust, that our gracious King, whose piety and virtues command the love and loyalty of his people; that our glorious constitution, which secures equal protection to all; that our Religion, Liberty, and Laws, in spite of our enemies within or without, by the favour of Heaven, will all remain in safety to our happiness and our glory." P. 21.

The publication of this discourse will, we hope, redound to the advantage of the Foundling Hospital, as well as to the credit of the person by whom it was composed and delivered.

ART. XV. *A Sermon, preached in the Parish Church of Hanwell, in the County of Middlesex, on Sunday, July 22, 1798, before the Members of the Voluntary Armed Association, formed within the Parishes of Hanwell and Ealing, including New and Old Brentford. By George Henry Glasse, M. A. Rector of Hanwell, Honorary Chaplain to the Corps.* 4to. 15 pp. 1s. Brentford, printed; sold by Cadell, &c. 1798.

MR. Glasse, laudably zealous, as well as Dr. Willis, to encourage the ardour of our patriotic defenders, finds an applicable passage in the first Book of Samuel (xxv. 15, 16)

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"The men were very good unto us, and we were not hurt, neither missed we any thing as long as we were conversant with them, while we were in the fields. They were a wall unto us both by night and day." Among many passages that are judiciously imagined, and composed with animation, the following appears to us conspicuous.

"Woe therefore be to fearful hearts, and to faint hands, and to the sinner that goeth two ways*! Woe to them who refuse to promote, with all the powers, and all the faculties of their souls, the cause of truth, the cause of virtue, the cause of God!—If there be any man of this description here present, let him consider the splendid exertions of his brethren,—let him contemplate the august position of his country! Founded as it were upon the seas, and prepared upon the floodst, to break the billows, and resist the impetuosity of the storm—called on to support and sustain a tottering world—placed, singly and alone, in the fore-front of the battle of the Lord—stationed, in a point of danger, it is true, but of infinite glory—and there endeavouring, at the hazard of its existence as a nation, to maintain social order, moral duty, the laws, the liberties, and the rights, yes, the violated RIGHTS OF MAN—and striving with all its powers, and all its mighty energies, to preserve and keep alive among mankind the precious faith of the SON of God, that immaculate Lamb, slain from the beginning of the world†. In this sacred contest, if it be the will of God that we fail of success, all the foundations of the earth will go to pieces with us§; darkness and confusion will overspread the face of nature||; the tempestuous whirlwind of democracy will be permitted, as a fearful instrument of vengeance, to sweep the civilized world with destruction¶. Even in this event, my beloved brethren, one resource will yet be afforded us. The God whom we serve will at least permit us to offer up our lives, as an humble oblation, for the sake of his most holy faith. If he think not fit to award us the chaplet of victory, he has yet in reserve for us the crown of martyrdom.

"Should such be the consummation of those events which are impending over us, there is little doubt when the awful judgments of God will have their commencement. With the overthrow of the altar of Christ will be immediately connected that of the ministers of his religion. In the transactions of past ages, in those of the present hour, they may without difficulty read their fate. They can be no strangers to the atrocities of atheistical malice: and many a glorious example has been set before them of christian zeal, intrepidity, and long-suffering." P. 10.

* Ecclesiasticus ii. 12. † Psalm xxiv. 2. ‡ Revelation xiii. 8.
§ Psalm lxxxii. 5. || La chute de tous les trônes, l'anéantissement de toutes les constitutions politiques, civiles, et religieuses, en seroit le funeste résultat. La démocratie dévorerait l'Europe, et finirait par se dévorer elle-même. *Tableau Speculatif*, par M. Dumouriez, p. 105.
¶ Isaiah xiv. 23."

Exhortations like these, we find ourselves called upon by a thousand motives, to place in a more conspicuous light, than the cursory notice of a monthly catalogue; we are inclined to hope that our reasons will be felt as valid, at least by all who approve the general spirit and tendency of our exertions.

ART. XVI. *The Life of Catharine the Second, Empress of Russia. An enlarged Translation from the French, with Seven Portraits, elegantly engraved, and a correct Map of the Russian Empire. In Three Vols. 8vo. 11. 1s. Longman. 1798.*

THE translator of this highly entertaining work, has prefixed to his principal subject some interesting particulars respecting the population, climate, and commerce of the Russian empire; which he has divided into three sections, and treated them with much perspicuity and conciseness, though perhaps, in some respects, rather too minutely. A previous account of this vast empire, of which little or nothing was known previous to the fifteenth century, must afford great amusement to those who are by any means connected with that country; and to political speculators the gradual improvement of such an immense mass of people, emerging from a state of the most ignorant barbarism, to a superior rank amidst the more enlightened powers of Europe, it must be a fund of endless gratification to trace the various steps by which they have arrived at their present celebrity. In respect to the population of Russia, the editor computes it at thirty millions, which, he adds, gives only ninety-three inhabitants to each square mile; the revenue he estimates at upwards of forty millions of roubles. He next treats of the climate, and thinks the empire, in regard to its weather, may generally be divided into three grand departments, in the most severe of which, upon the 7th of December, 1786, the quicksilver in Reaumur's thermometer fell to 60 degrees, and then froze to a solid mass, on which several strokes of a hammer were struck before any part fell off. As an instance of what may be executed in ice, we shall beg leave to subjoin the following extract:

“ In the year 1740, the Empress Anna caused an ice palace to be built on the bank of the Neva. It was constructed of huge quadrats of ice, hewn in the manner of freestone. The edifice was fifty-two feet in length, sixteen in breadth, and twenty in height. The walls were

were three feet thick. In the several apartments were tables, chairs, beds, and all kinds of household furniture, of ice. In front of the palace, besides pyramids and statues, stood six cannons carrying balls of six pounds weight, and two mortars, of ice. From one of the former, as a trial, an iron ball, with only a quarter of a pound of powder, was fired off. The ball went through a two inch board at sixty paces from the mouth of the cannon; and the piece of ice artillery, with its lavette, remained uninjured by the explosion. The illumination of the ice palace at night had an astonishing grand effect."

In his last section he treats of the commerce of this vast nation, and remarks the great spirit of trade and mercantile industry, of which, he says, we may form some idea, from the perseverance with which they import various commodities from the easternmost districts of Siberia to Petersburg, almost entirely by water, which, after having completed a journey through two quarters of the globe, arrive in the Neva at the place of their destination: the success that attends these exertions amply compensates for their labour. "A Russian merchant, named Sava Yaewlef, who died not many years ago, from a hawk of fish about the streets became a capitalist of several millions." In order to prevent imposition at the Custom-House, they adopt a singular method.

"All vessels on their arrival undergo a strict examination both at Cronstadt and St. Petersburg, and are obliged to unload at the Custom-House. The proper officers examine the commodities according to the statement of the merchants, who are obliged to particularise not only the nature of them, but when the duty is to be paid (*ad valorem*) must also fix that value. If upon examination it appears, or affords cause to suspect, that the articles are rated below the proper value, the officer has a right to detain them, at the price thus set upon them, with an additional allowance of twenty per cent. for the profit."

The author concludes this section with a table of weights and measures, and likewise adds the different names of the current Russian coin; it would, however, have been highly useful (and it is certainly a great desideratum) to have given the English value of them. The reader will find, upon a perusal of this very entertaining part of the work, that much useful information is to be obtained, and that the author has taken great pains in collecting it, and is thoroughly master of his subject.

We will now take a review of the work itself. The life of this very extraordinary woman, to whom all Europe has looked with astonishment; whose virtues were extolled by the pen of Voltaire with so liberal a hand, and whose vices were made to appear as nothing; who beheld the
fove-

sovereigns of Warsaw, Copenhagen, and Stockholm, dependant on her nod; who aimed at nothing less than the entire conquest of the Ottoman empire; who could even surpass France in intrigue, and bid defiance to England in arrogant and haughty terms; who was the patron of every art and science, and whose life was one continued scene of voluptuousness in her own gratifications, schemes of conquest, or works of national utility; whose passions, whatever might be their object, never submitted to any restraint but from political necessity, to whom flattery in every shape was highly acceptable, and of which she was never sparing to others; fond to excess of external magnificence, and liberal to a fault in regard to rewarding those whom she deemed worthy of her favours; and whose character, notwithstanding her crimes, treatment of her husband, her ambition, &c. will always have a degree of respect attached to it, for her abolishing the torture, emancipating the slaves, and establishing the academy at Petersburg, the present must be a very acceptable work; and we cannot omit to add, that the public are much indebted to the translator for the manner in which he has performed his task. The style is neat, expressive, and energetic, and affords a striking proof of his excellence in this species of literature; in confirmation of which, we will lay before our readers a few extracts from the work itself. Speaking of the marriage of Catharine:

" All Europe was deceived on the causes of this alliance, which was attributed to the intervention of the King of Prussia. It is true Frederic was desirous of seeing it brought to effect, but without a motive unconnected with politics, the solicitations of that monarch would have fallen to the ground. Long ere she mounted the throne of the Tzars, Elizabeth had been promised to the young Prince of Holstein-Eutin, brother to the Princess of Anhalt-Zerbst, mother of Catharine; but at the instant when the marriage was about to be celebrated, the prince fell sick and died. Elizabeth, who loved him to excess, became inconsolable; and in the bitterness of her grief, made a vow to renounce the nuptial tie: a vow which as we have already observed, was, at least to the public, religiously kept. Even if Elizabeth was seen afterwards to yield to the gallantries of several of her courtiers, she never the less retained a lively tenderness for the object of her first affection. She paid a sort of worship to his memory, and never mentioned him without tears. The Princess of Anhalt-Zerbst, not ignorant of the tender remembrance preserved by Elizabeth for her brother, resolved to take advantage of it for securing a throne to her daughter. She trusted her plan to the King of Prussia, who applauded her for it, and shortly after supported it with all his might. The Princess of Zerbst remained at Petersburg, where Elizabeth received her with friendship. Her daughter,

daughter, who was handsome, and endowed with all the graces of youth, immediately made a pretty forcible impression on the heart of the young grand Duke; and as he himself was at that time well made, and of a very good figure, the attachment became reciprocal; and it was soon the subject of the conversations at Court. Elizabeth herself remarked them without seeming to be displeased. The Princess of Zerbst, who spied the favourable moment, lost no time, but ran and threw herself at the feet of the Empress, represented to her the inclinations of the two young lovers as an unconquerable passion; and calling to her mind the love she had herself borne to the Prince of Holstein, her brother, she conjured her to promote the happiness of the niece of that so much regretted Prince. There was, doubtless, no need of all this for determining the Empress to consent to their union. She mingled her tears with those of the Princess of Zerbst; and, embracing her, promised her that her daughter should be grand Duchess. The day following the choice of Elizabeth was announced to the councils and to the foreign ministers. The marriage was fixed for a day shortly to arrive: and preparations for its celebration were arranged with a magnificence worthy of the heir of the throne of the Russias. But fortune, which had hitherto seemed so favourable to the grand duke, now began to change its course; and Catharine was threatened with the loss of her lover, as Elizabeth had been deprived of her's. The grand Duke was attacked with a violent fever; and a small pox of a very malignant nature soon after made its appearance (the prince, however, did not fall under this violence of the disease, though he retained the cruel marks of it). The metamorphosis was terrible. He not only lost the comeliness of his face, but it became for a time, distorted, and almost hideous. None were permitted to approach the young princess from the apartment of the grand duke; but her mother regularly brought her tidings of the turns of the prince's distemper. Observing how much he was altered, and desirous of weakening the effect the first sight of him might have upon her daughter, she described him as one of the ugliest men imaginable; recommending her at the same time, to dissemble the disgust she must naturally feel at his appearance. Notwithstanding this sage precaution, the young princess could not revisit the grand duke without feeling a secret horror; she was artful enough, however, to repress her emotion, and running to meet him, fell upon his neck, and embraced him with all the marks of the most lively joy. But no sooner was she retired to her apartment than she fell into a swoon; and it was three hours before she recovered the use of her senses. The uneasiness which the young princess had just experienced, was however no inducement to her to endeavour at deferring the period of her union with the grand duke. The Empress contemplated this alliance with pleasure; the Princess of Zerbst was passionately desirous to see it concluded; and the suggestions of ambition acting more powerfully on the heart of Catharine, than even the wills of her mother, and that of the Empress, permitted her not a moment's hesitation. "The nuptials were accordingly solemnized."

In tracing the causes of the loss of his throne and life of the unfortunate Peter; the following will appear to be the principal

principal reasons for the ultimate success of that iniquitous business. Neglect of education; his partiality to every thing foreign; more particularly Prussian; and immediately upon succeeding to the throne, his taking possession of the immense property of the church; and by his disbanding the noble guards, who had raised Elizabeth to the throne, and his having but one real friend, and that one possessed of no power, whose name was Gondovitch. The speech of this man to Peter when he had been shut up for several days successively with his mistress (the Countess Vrontzoff) and some of his table companions, and was in a state of almost continual intoxication, we shall beg leave to insert as an instance of sincere friendship and affection: presenting himself before the Emperor, with a countenance of studied severity, he thus addressed him:

“ Peter Feodorovitch, I now plainly perceive that you prefer to us, the enemies of your fame. You are irrecoverably subservient to them; you acknowledge them to have had good reason for saying that you were more addicted to low and degrading pleasures, than fit to govern an empire. Is it thus that you emulate your laborious and vigilant grandfathers, that Peter the great whom you have so often sworn to take for your model? Is it thus that you persevere in the wise and noble conduct, by which, at your accession to the throne, you merited the love and the admiration of your people. But that love, that admiration are already forgotten. They are succeeded by discontent and murmurs. Petersburg is anxiously enquiring whether the Tzar has ceased to live within its walls? The whole empire begins to fear that it has cherished only vain expectations of receiving laws that shall revive its vigour and increase its glory. The malevolent are alone triumphant; and soon will the intrigues, the cabals, which the first moments of your reign had reduced to silence, again raise their heads with redoubled insolence. Shake off then this disgraceful lethargy, my Tzar! hasten to shew and to prove, by some resplendent act of virtue, that you are worthy of realising those hopes that have been formed and cherished of you.”—Peter listened to this discourse with a mixture of consternation and shame; and when Gondovitch had left off speaking, he asked what he would have him do to compensate the empire for the days he had been spending in riot. Gondovitch immediately presented him the two declarations that had been put into his hands by the grand Chancellor Vorontzoff—one for restoring the nobility to their rights, and the other for abolishing the secret committee. Peter took these papers without staying to consider of them, and putting them under his arm, went and read them to the senate. All those who were apprized of the contents of these new declarations made their discontentment give place to joy, and fondly imagined that the Emperor had been solely employed, during his late retreat, in framing these wise and salutary laws.”

This was the last effort of the ill-fated Peter to recover the favour of his subjects; his habits of intemperance were now

so firmly rooted, that he seldom or never rose from table free from intoxication ; and the entire dominion that his mistress, a woman of weak and arrogant disposition, had over him, completed his ruin. Whether Catharine was the immediate cause of his death, it may be difficult to affirm ; but her manifest partiality and beneficence to the Orloffs (to one of whom at least this sanguinary business may undoubtedly be attributed) must afford strong grounds for suspicion, that she was accessory, if not the instigator of this inhuman deed*.

Upon her elevation to the throne, Catharine's first step was to reward, as far as was in her power, the most deserving of her partizans : to what then can we attribute her ingratitude to the Princess Dashkoff ? who, having sacrificed her father, her sister, her whole family to the interest of her friend, and even herself in some instances : when, as a recompence for these important services, and relying upon the friendship and attachment of the Empress, she solicited the title of Colonel of the regiment of Préobajensky, she was answered with an ironical smile, that the academy would suit her better than a military corps, and was soon afterwards ordered to retire to Moscow. We have inserted this as the only instance of deficiency in generosity towards any one who was entitled to the liberality of the Empress.

On the mental turpitude of Catharine, who can reflect without disgust, contempt, and horror ? To enumerate all who shared her favours, would in all probability be impossible ; and what renders her character in that respect still more despicable, is, that it appears, of the innumerable list of lovers, there was one only for whom she had a sincere attachment ; this was Lanskoi, and for him she certainly cherished a warm affection ; all the rest were entirely dependant upon her sensuality for their continuance or removal ; upon this subject of favourites we will insert the following singular particulars.

" It is necessary then to shew what were the duties and distinctions of the favourites of Catharine. When her majesty had fixed her choice on a new favourite, she created him her general aid-de-camp,

* Peter being led to believe that his confinement would not be of long duration, before he was sent off to Germany, it seems he petitioned Catharine to let him have with him a negro who sometimes amused him, a dog that had long been a favourite with him, his violin, a bible, and some romances ; adding, that disgusted with the ill-treatment he had received from mankind, he was resolved for the future to lead a philosophical life. Nothing of this was granted him ; and his wife plan of conduct was turned into ridicule.

in order that he might accompany her every where without reproach or observation. Thenceforward the favourite occupied in the palace an apartment beneath that of the Empress, to which it communicated by a private staircase. The first day of his installation, he received a present of 100,000 roubles, and every month he found 12,000 on his dressing table. The marshal of the court was commissioned to provide him a table of 24 covers, and to defray all the expences of his household. The favourite attended the Empress on all parties of amusement, at the opera, at balls, promenades, excursions of pleasure, and the like, and was not allowed to leave the palace without express permission. He was given to understand, that it would not be taken well if he conversed familiarly with other women; and if he went to dine with any of his friends, the mistress of the house was always absent. Whenever the Empress cast her eyes on one of her subjects, in the design of raising him to the post of favourite, she caused him to be invited to dinner by some lady of her confidence, on whom she called in, as if by chance. There she would enter into discourse with the new comer, with a view to discover whether or not he was worthy of the favour she designed to grant him. When the judgment she had formed was favourable, the confidant was informed of it by a significant look, who took care to notify it to him who had the honour to please. The day following, he received a visit from the physician of the court, who came to inquire after the state of his health; and the same evening he accompanied the Empress to the hermitage, and took possession of the apartment that had been prepared for him. It was on the selection of Potemkin that these formalities began; and since that time they have been constantly observed. When a favourite had lost the power of making himself agreeable, there was also a particular manner of giving him his dismissal. He received orders to travel; and from that moment he was debarred all access to her majesty. But he was sure of finding at the place of his destination recompence worthy of the munificent Catharine."

We must not, however, dismiss the list of favourites, without noticing that extraordinary man, Prince Potemkin; who, upon the death of her beloved Lauskoj, took upon him to dispel her grief.

"He was almost the only person who presumed to penetrate the solitude in which she passed her hours: his influence with her increased from day to day; and whether from gratitude or real attachment, she resolved, it is said, to bind him to her by indissoluble ties, and secretly gave him her hand*. If we consider the character of Prince Po-

* Undoubtedly nothing is more difficult than to prove the authenticity of such a marriage. But the French authors say, that a person highly worthy of credit assured them, that the nieces of Prince Potemkin were in possession of the certificates of that event, and that one of them told him so; after all, both the Empress and Prince Potemkin being dead, this secret is of no more importance than that of the marriage of Louis XIV with Madam de Maintenon.

we shall find such a mass of inconsistencies for forming a great general, or a great man, that it will be a matter of surprize to conceive by what means he attained to such distinguished honours; but we may trace the origin of his greatness, from a perfect knowledge of his countrymen, which he managed with the most consummate address, and by which he was able to secure his authority with the Empress, and the love of the nobility and soldiery; he was likewise well versed in the national characteristics of the surrounding powers, and the success of his political abilities was manifest upon many occasions; his titles were innumerable, and his revenue immense; his fortune was estimated at 30,000,000 roubles; in 1791, during his stay at Petersburg, he expended in the space of four or five months upwards of 1,200,000 roubles; but to form an adequate idea of his profusion and magnificence we will insert a few passages relative to the entertainment he gave at the Tavitsheskoï palace."

He, meaning the Prince, laid the plan of an entertainment, which should give him the opportunity to present a tribute of gratitude at the feet of the exalted authors of his fortune, in his own house, in the presence of the whole court. This, like all his other plans, was extraordinary and great. A whole month was consumed in preparations; artists of all kinds were employed; whole shops and warehouses were emptied to supply the necessaries of the occasion; several hundred persons were daily assembled, in making previous rehearsals for the final execution; and each of these days was, of itself, a grand spectacle. At length the moment arrived; notice had been given that the Empress and Imperial family would honour this day by their presence: the court, the foreign ministers, the nobility, and a great part of the people of condition in the city, were invited. On her Majesty's entering the vestibule of the Jauridian palace, the loud music suddenly struck up from the lofty gallery, resounding through the grand saloon and the spacious halls. The orchestra consisted of 600 performers; and instruments and voices produced their alternate effects. In a few minutes the Empress having advanced to the grand saloon, and taken her seat upon a gentle elevation, and the company divided among the colonades and into the boxes, four and twenty couple of the most beautiful youths of both sexes, of noble families, among whom were also the Grand Dukes of Alexander and Constantine, opened the dances with a quadrille. All were dressed in white, and only distinguishable by the colours of their girdles and scarfs. The value of their dresses were estimated at ten millions of roubles. For a further account of this magnificent pageant, we will refer our readers to the work itself; it was the last effort of Potemkin to amuse himself, and he soon after died a martyr to his own voracious and ungovernable appetite. Were we to indulge

ourselves in extracting the various information and amusement that may be reaped from these volumes, it would inevitably curtail our remarks upon other publications; we must not, however, finish our observations upon the Life of Catharine, without noticing her great art in all her manifestos to the different powers; perhaps no sovereign that ever existed, made more specious pretexts for aggrandizing herself by conquests than Catharine; there is in all her state memorials so much art, and such a show of regard for the interest both of her own subjects, as well as for that of her enemies, that she may be looked up to as a model of perfection for every thing of the kind; they who are fond of perusing papers of this description, will find their curiosity amply gratified by consulting the appendix, which is given to each volume. Upon an attentive perusal of these volumes, we cannot do otherwise than acknowledge their merit, and recommend them as fully adequate to repay the time that may be bestowed upon them, by the entertainment and information which they afford.

ART. XVII. *The Life of Edmund Burke. Comprehending an impartial Account of his Literary and Political Efforts, and a Sketch of the Conduct and Character of his most eminent Associates, Coadjutors, and Opponents.* By Robert Bisset, LL. D. 8vo. 592 pp. 8s. Cawthorn. 1798.

THE incidents of the private life of a statesman, in free modified governments, and in periods undisturbed by great commotions, differ but little from those of other individuals of the same class of society. His rise or fall, and all the events of his public life also, depend much on the revolutions of public sentiment: but although the most instructive and useful branch of history be that of opinions, it is surpassed, in universality of interest at least, by some others.

Dr. Bisset has here used great diligence in the collection of memoirs and anecdotes of the private life of Mr. Burke, mixed with others of several of his contemporaries, with whom he was intimately connected, or to whom he acted in opposition: these form a kind of episode, which, when judiciously placed in the life of a great man, connected with, or opposed to friends or rivals, who were worthy of him, give great beauty and entertainment to the work: but as a third account of Mr. B. may still be expected from one of the most intimate of his friends, of great eminence in station and literature, possessed of the

the most authentic materials, and to whom every channel of information is open, we shall reserve our further consideration on this head until it comes before us.

We have here a fine character of the piety of Mr. Burke, and his morality in private life. As a politician, the interest of a smaller section of those persons whom he had acted with for many years, requires it should be atrociously mangled; he has been therefore charged with having, at the latter end of his life, deserted those principles he had ever before professed. To this Dr. Bisset replies in this work. We are precluded from giving our judgment on the argument he has brought forward, by the circumstance of our having treated (with the brevity our publication imposes upon us) the same question, on the same authorities, and given the same result from them. To have noted this, enables us to do an act of justice to this writer: the coincidence might have been thought to arise from a tacit adoption of what we had said, but a part of his work contains an absolute demonstration that the conclusion would be erroneous.

One particular, however, we shall mention from these vindicæ of Mr. Burke, because there are two consequences which follow it, each of which seems to possess its curiosity. In 1749, Lucas, of Dublin, a demagogue apothecary, wrote a number of very daring papers against government. Mr. Burke's first literary attempt was to expose the pernicious tendency of the levelling doctrines they were pregnant with. This he did by pursuing the principles of Lucas in essays, in which the imitation of his manner was so perfect, that the public attributed them to that incendiary. We add this solitary proof from Dr. Bisset, how faithful an observer Mr. B. was of that maxim of the poet relating to character;

Servetur ad imum

Qualis ab incepto processerit, ET SIBI CONSTET.

Here also we see the first rudiments of his *Vindication of National Society*, in which, writing in the person of Lord Bolingbroke, he shows a second set of pernicious doctrines to be applicable to the ruin of civil society, by their latent tendency to subvert all government: this second work being likewise an absolute fac simile of the style of that writer.

If we felt our pleasure intermitted at the perusal of some few parts of this work, thinly scattered, there are many which we thought to deserve much commendation. He begins his account of Mr. Burke by two opposite characters of him, that given by his censurers and admirers, of considerable length; they are faithfully drawn, according to the sentiments of each;
and

and we believe them an original exordium in an account of a life. In writing, contrasts are always beautiful, where the subject prepares them.

The comparison of the eloquence of Burke and Cicero is a piece of criticism which will stand high in the esteem both of the philosophical and practical critic. It may be thought that he rather undervalues the use of technical rhetoric: our opinion is, that of two great public speakers, in every other quality and acquirement equal, the one possessed of it, the other absolutely without it, the effect of the former upon the minds of his auditors, would considerably exceed that of the latter. The abuse of art is not necessarily connected with all use of it.

Dr. Bisset's introduction to the part Mr. B. took with regard to the French Revolution, is acute and masterly. No distinction can be better than that of the two points of view in which his writings on that event are to be considered. His plan for this great article of his work led him to consider the character of the French government before the first revolution: but we think him unfortunate in the selection of the authority on which he gives it, the *New Annual Register*. No fact, simply urged as a charge against the old administration, or as an apology for the new, whatever proof it may be capable of from other sources, derives one iota of credibility from that work. If he had consulted the writings of Neckar before the revolution, he would not have transcribed from it, that, "during 175 years, France had been without even the appearance of a voice in the direction of her own most momentous concerns." That minister, even when in disgrace, admitted that public opinion in France had already obtained such importance, as to have great efficacy in the taking up and laying aside both men and measures: if it wanted something of its due force, its greater want was a regular channel to act in. In the same work of this arithmetician, Dr. Bisset would also have found a particular account of the contributions of the nobility and clergy to the state, which, if he had perused, we are confident he would not have adopted the calumnious charge of the makers of that periodical history on the government of monarchical France, "that the revenue was endeavoured to be *exclusively* wrung from the grasp of the poor, the weak, and the laborious." Of the information of Neckar no doubt can be entertained, and his computation directly refutes this. We make one reflection on this. The clergy granted aids to the state in their own assemblies: and there exist no freeholders of this kingdom, the privileges of whose order in respect to taxes, is not as extensive as theirs was. The desideratum ap-
pears

pears to have been, not to have annihilated their privileges, but to have rendered them as universal as policy would admit.

This writer has reduced the party of the sanguine supporters of the French revolution into distinct and defined classes, and with great propriety: and his review and analysis of Mr. Burke's Reflections are to be much commended. An opinion which appears to pervade a great part of his work, that a man of great abilities and acquirements is more useful to the world by instructing it from his closet, than by mixing in public affairs, requires, we believe, a considerable qualification: to form an improved school of senators, and an improved school of philosophers, are each objects of the highest utility; and the happiness and honour of a state are both increased, when, of those great men, a part employ their talents in each of these directions. That Mr. Burke's application of his great abilities to politics was attended with the first effect, Dr. Bisset, toward the conclusion of his work, has very satisfactorily shown.

We have commended his parallel of the oratory of Burke and Cicero; we shall in part show the justice of that commendation, and give a specimen of the style of this biographer in the following extract: it is the comparison of the imagery of those two great speakers.

"Another species of materials that tends to illustrate truth, and embellish eloquence, is imagery. In imagery, Burke is much more copious and variegated than Cicero. Superior copiousness, however, of imagery does not necessarily imply superior fertility of imagination: the power of combination being equal, he will most easily combine who has the most copious materials. If there be two men of equal powers of imagination, and the one knows history and ethics, the other history and ethics equally well, and physics besides, the latter may have with ease more abundant imagery than the former. The sources of imagery are more numerous to the moderns, because knowledge is greater.—But when we particularly examine the imagery of Cicero and of Burke, we find Burke's to be much more abundant, not only from the stores of modern discovery and practice, but from those of external and moral nature, known in the time of Cicero, and at all times. Hence we may fairly infer that the imagination of Burke was naturally more fertile than that of Cicero. In the imagery, as well as the arguments of Cicero, an attentive reader will find more of rhetorical art than in Burke's." P. 201.

Although the style is in general good, we have noted a few faults in it: to speak of a bow-wow way of conversation falls below the subject; but it is the only lapse of the kind we discovered in the work: and we do not say of any thing, that it conveyed the rays of light, or of genius, but that it made them

them converge. The influence of such errors in works which deserve general attention, must make us rather more sedulous to point them out.

ART. XVIII. *On the French Revolution. By Mr. Neckar. Translated from the French. In Two Volumes. 8vo. 12s. Cadell and Davies. 1797.*

EVERY publication, connected with the topic of the French Revolution, is naturally received with avidity; but few have a better title to attention than the present. Mr. Neckar thinks deeply, and reasons with candour.

In that part of the history wherein the approaching assembly of the *States-General* is described, we find a sketch of the disposition of Louis XVI. which is highly honourable to his memory. See p. 99.

We shall not pursue the author through the whole of his narrative respecting this unfortunate king: we shall content ourselves with the following extract from the account of his trial.

“ Louis XVI. during the course of his reign, had been praised with greater or less good-will, with greater or less affection: but never did he experience calumny till the period when men without restraint, and ready for every kind of outrage, assumed the direction of public affairs; he long disdained the blows from such hands, but could at no time support with calmness those false insinuations in which he was represented as a hard-hearted man, almost indifferent to the shedding of blood. I have seen him in a state of inexpressible grief on the perusal of a widely circulated paper, in which it was said of him, that, in the month of July 1789, he had given orders for the sacking of Paris, or some similar violence. It cannot, alas! be better described than in the touching words pronounced when M. Seze had finished his speech:

“ My defence you have already heard, I shall not therefore again enter upon the subject. In speaking to you, perhaps for the last time, I assure you that my conscience does not reproach me, and that my defenders have told you nothing but the simple truth.

“ I have never feared any public examination of my conduct; but my heart is torn with finding, in the act of accusation, the imputation of having wished to shed the blood of the people; and especially am I hurt, that the misfortunes of the 10th of August should be attributed to me.

“ I must declare, that the multiplied proofs which I have at all times given of my love for the people, and the manner in which I have conducted myself towards them, appear to me evidence sufficient

to prove that I have been little fearful of exposing myself in order to spare their blood, and to free me for ever from such an imputation.

(Signed) LOUIS." Vol. i. p. 390.

The sketch of Robespierre is given with considerable spirit at p. 35.

The puerile constitution of republican France offers to every critic an easy triumph. The paper-bulwarks that have been so pompously erected against the encroachments of power, the artifice of intrigue, and the darings of ambition, are open to the ridicule of every man who is possessed of the least penetration; and offer a melancholy study to him who recollects the miseries which it has cost. Mr. Neckar exposes its absurdities with much good sense and political knowledge. Among many glaring defects, the following is worthy of particular notice.

"Thus, a want of pliancy, a character of dryness, may be found at every instant in the course of the French legislation; and the constitutional code discovers the same spirit. Europe, astonished, will search in vain there to discover in what hands they have deposited the right of pardon and of mercy, to what power they have confided it. These words, so dear to souls of feeling, have not even been pronounced; and no person, during the course of its discussion, has found that they left a void in the republican code; no person, in an assembly of 750 popular deputies, has appeared to remember, or has ever mentioned them.

"This is a single example in the world; for free countries as well as others have always demanded that there should be a means of safety after justice; they have perceived that this justice, inflexible by its nature, cannot comprehend, cannot go through the diversity of circumstances, and remark the distinctions, the peculiarities, which may plead in favour of the criminal for indulgence and for pardon; they have believed that justice, after having fulfilled her own duty towards society, ought to leave an opportunity to exercise her's towards human weakness. It is an ancient custom in Great Britain, to demand of the prince at his coronation, that he will swear to render justice with exactness, and moreover, *with mercy*. America, in its new institutions, has never thought of proscribing access to pity, and has deposited the right of pardoning in the hands of the chief of the executive authority; and this expression in the ancient oath of the kings of France, *rationalem misericordiam exhibebo*, is found in the annals of the earliest times of the monarchy." Vol. ii. p. 210.

This work is an important addition to similar publications on the subject, and will afford copious and useful materials to the future historian.

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BRITISH

BRITISH CATALOGUE.

POETRY.

ART. 19. *Fabula Selectæ Auctore Johanne Gay Latine reddite interpretæ Cbr. Anstey, Arm.* 8vo. 139pp. 2s. 6d. Cadell and Davica.

We have before seen specimens of Mrs Anstey's Latin poetry, which inclined us to expect much pleasure from the present publication. Eighteen of the most popular of Gay's Fables are rendered in easy elegant hexameter and pentameter verses. We think the following among the most happy.

" FABULA II.

MATER, NUTRIX, et LAMIA.

Dii, date filiolum, misso sibi munere felix
 O! quàm progenie gaudet uterque parens!
 Quid falsus non suadet amor? sapientior herclè
 Non fuit, aut toto pulchrior orbe puer.
 Surgit, et Aurorâ latos referente labores,
 Hæc dem genitrix officiosa petit:
 Contortis stabat, eeu percita Dæmone, palmis
 Nutrix, singultu concutiente sinus.
 Hei mihi, nescio quid malè contigit, en age, quid sit,
 Dic, Nutrix; vivit, spero, valetque puer.
 Ne mihi, ne tribuas, Domina O carissima, culpam;
 Adfuit hic oculos clam scelerata meos
 Adfuit hic Lamia; et virâ tibi charior infans
 Tollitur, et supplet pluunbeus iste locum;
 Lumina quò matris sylvestribus æmula prunis,
 Quò patrius fugit nasus, et oris honos?
 Hic adverte oculos, deforme hoc aspice monstrum,
 Totus hebet, stultum tota figura sapit.
 Fœmina, mæter ait, cæca est; en, qualis oculo
 Vivida scintillat vis, animique vigor?
 Per Superos, respondet anus, transversa tuetur
 Jam nunc, hic Lamiâ nullus adest neget.
 Dixit, per clavis cùm lapsa foramen imago
 Pygmæa, ante oculos ocyor igne volat;
 Erectumque caput cunarum in vertice tollens,
 Stulticiam his visa est inrespitare medias.

Unde hæc vana hominum surgunt commenta ? quis unquam

Nos orbi stultos suppeditare putet ?

An nostrum sublime genus mortalibus ægris,

Compositisque luto posthabuisse deceat ?

Nos quoque progeniem vix æquo lumine nostram

Cernimus, et falsus nos quoque ludit amor ;

Quæ genitrix, puerum si commutare liceret,

Pingue caput fatui nollet habere sui ?

Gentis at humanæ sobolem præponere nostræ,

Stultorum nobis nomina jure daret." P. 27.

This will probably be received into every scholar's library, as a suitable companion to the similar efforts of Vincent Bourne.

ART. 20. *Malvern Hills, a Poem.* By Joseph Cottle. 8vo. 71pp.
3s. Longman. 1798.

There are some marks of true poetic spirit in this composition ; as the reader may judge.

" And now I mark,

Beneath two lofty hills, and in the vale

Form'd by their steep descent, the Holy Well,

A plain stone dwelling, weather-worn and rude

Stands singly by. There never sound is heard

But the bleak wind, that, howling from above,

Sweeps the bald mountain's side, and urging on

It's boisterous way, at length forgets its rage,

In dallying with the valley's scattered trees :

Save when the sky is hush'd, and to the ear

The never-ending bubblings of the spring

Send the same note—the same unvarying note.

Most melancholy spot, the hand of time

Seems busy with thy shatter'd tenement,

And all around thee prompts to pensiveness :

For who can view this place, nor think of those

Who to the fount are led to ease their frames

Of rankling malady.—The drooping fire

Of rising children, tottering o'er the grave,

And casting, with an anxious look, his eye

Through distant times, with many hopes and fears

For those he leaves behind. Or of the wife

Who bears a mother's name, by slow disease

Treading the downward road, yet, fill'd with dreams

Of lengthen'd days and coming happiness ;

Watching her infant's smile, and planning well

Its future destiny, tho' never she

Shall mark its course. Yet not alone the throng

Who vainly hope the renovated frame,

Here pass their days, beneath yon stately roof

Health and her sister Chearfulness are found,

Whilst every joy, from Nature's fairest works,

When in her pride she sits immaculate,

Spontaneous heaves the heart." P. 29.

We shall notice this gentleman's translation of the Edda in our Review for next month.

DRAMATIC.

ART. 21. *The Will. A Comedy, in Five Acts; as it is performed at the Theatre Royal Drury-Lane. Second Edition. By Frederic Reynolds.* 8vo. 2s. Robinsons. 1797.

Much bustle, and much improbability; with little plot, and less wit, the usual texture of a modern comedy. How long authors will think themselves at liberty to write with so little attention to dramatic principles, and how long the public will patiently receive such things, we cannot predict. But, till there is more laudable exertion on one side or the other, we can have little occasion to expatiate on any production called a comedy.

NOVELS.

ART. 22. *The Midnight Bell, a German Story, founded on Incidents in real Life. In Three Volumes.* 8vo. 10s. 6d. Symonds. 1798.

They who delight in being terrified, may, with much satisfaction, waste an hour or two in turning over this story, or rather knots of stories, so intertwined, that it requires more attention than the matter is worth, to keep in view the connexion of the several characters. Very sad things are related of the *old* Bastille; but care is taken to say nothing about the *new* ones, by which the face, as it were, of France has been covered, since the ancient state-prison was demolished.

ART. 23. *Rose Cecil, a Novel. In Three Volumes.* 10s. 6d. Lane. 1797.

The heroine of this story is indeed a charming woman; and the hero of it (for so we account *Willoughby*) is worthy of her. When a novel has no manifest bad tendency, we are unwilling to disclose any, which the author perhaps was far from intending. Yet we must say, that the mutual acknowledgment of a passion betwixt a young married woman and her admirer, playmates in their infancy, however innocent may be their conduct; and their final union and happiness, at the death of her husband, who is much older than herself;—do not hold forth a lesson quite so instructive as we could wish. Many errors in point of style must be forgiven in works of this kind; otherwise, very few of them would find any mercy at the bar of criticism; and reviewers would be wholly occupied in passing sentences of condemnation. But false spelling, and some other faults equally bad, cannot claim indulgence in any writings whatever. The frequent recurrence of such words as *irradicate*, *stimula*, *insignias*, &c. show the ignorance of the writer, or the negligence of the printer.

- ART. 24. *Clara Duplessis and Clairant: the History of a Family of French Emigrants. Translated from the German. In Three Volumes.* 8vo. 10s. 6d. Longman. 1797.

We should commend this story on some accounts very strongly, if we were not restrained by two considerations; first, its main tendency is to render men in the higher ranks of life odious to those beneath them; secondly, it incites unfortunate persons to the perpetration of *self-murder*; a horrid act, which involves in misery and shame a multitude of innocent relatives of the unhappy victim. We can never recommend books which encourage a practice so hostile (to say nothing else of it) to the peace and comfort of society.

- ART. 25. *Derwent Priory; or, Memoirs of an Orphan. In a Series of Letters, first published periodically, now republished, with Additions, By the Author of "the Castle on the Rock." In Two Volumes.* 8vo. 1s. Symonds. 1798.

From the language and conduct of the principal characters exhibited in this novel, young persons may learn to despise rank and fortune, and to sacrifice all other considerations to omnipotent love. They may find also a panegyric upon *Reason*, and upon its happy effects in the present age, put, somewhat indelicately, into the mouth of a female, (vol. i, p. 165). The author, or *authoress* (as she will have it) seems to plot unhappily, when she repeatedly represents the conversations of love, and of avarice, as *overheard* (vol. i, pp. 50, 134; vol. ii, p. 19). The sonnet at p. 31, induces us to recommend to her an abstinence from writing verses.

- ART. 26. *Grafsville Abbey. A Romance. In Three Volumes.* 8vo. 10s. 6d. Robinsons. 1797.

A dismal story, related (if we may use a familiar phrase) in a style *dismally bad*.

- ART. 27. *Ianthé, or the Flower of Caernarvon, a Novel. Dedicated, by Permission, to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. By Emily Clark. 2 Vols.* 10s. 6d. Hookham and Carpenter. 1798.

Among the many novels which are daily issuing from the press, we have to notice some few, which either rank above the commonality, or else raise expectations, that when the powers of the writer shall be matured, they will produce something of a superior cast. The work on our table is of the latter class; for the fair writer seems, from this specimen, to possess an elegant mind. The story of this early production of her pen, though simple, is happily imagined, and the plot skillfully developed; the characters of it are justly conceived, and well supported; and the pieces of poetry interspersed are far from contemptible. But if even it did not possess these claims to public notice, the situation of the writer, the grand daughter of the late well-known, much respected, and unfortunate Colonel Frederic, the son of Theodore

Theodore, King of Corfica, whose melancholy catastrophe cannot be forgotten; and the view which induced her to compose these volumes, would surely procure them the patronage of a liberal and feeling public. The meritorious exertion of talents, for the support of a mother and sisters, by a young lady of twenty, will certainly (we hope for the honour of our country) not pass unrewarded.

ART. 28. *Canterbury Tales for the Year 1797. By Harriet Lee. Two Vols. 8vo. 12s. Robinson. 1798.*

We have been greatly amused by these volumes, which exhibit a great deal of ingenuity and fancy. The plan is, that some travellers are *fortu bound* at Canterbury; and each, after a little coquetry, agrees to tell his tale in imitation of the prototype Chaucer. We are particularly pleased with the Poet's tale in the first, and the young Lady's tale, which is so much longer than the rest, (natural enough) as to occupy the whole of the second volume. More of these may be expected, and we shall receive them gladly.

DIVINITY.

ART. 29. *An Answer to the Question, Why are you a Christian? 12mo. 57 pp. 6d. Printed in America, 1795. Reprinted by R. Marshall, Lynn. 1798.*

The original edition of this tract in America, and that in London, in 1796 (noticed in our Review, vol. viii, p. 429) contained some *political* partialities, very unsuitable to the nature of the question here discussed. Those improprieties are judiciously excluded from this republication; which may be recommended to the attention of Christians, as tending, by plain arguments (not new indeed, but concisely stated) to confirm their belief; and which may be read with good effect by unbelievers; especially those, whose unbelief is produced by trite objections, picked up from superficial books, by *casual and hasty reading, without thinking*; the general ground of unbelief in this indolent age, in which all men read, and few study.

ART. 30. *A Sermon, preached at the Visitation held in Grantham, May 14, 1798. By Samuel Hopkinson, B. D. late Fellow of Clare-Hall, and Vicar of Morton. 8vo. 16 pp. Newbery. 1798.*

The text of this harangue (for it can hardly be called a sermon) is 1 Peter iv; 1; we find nothing about "trying the spirits" (which is the professed theme of the discourse) except a slight account of the origin of *methodism*, the imperfections of that religious system, and some good qualities of those who adhere to it. In this account is interwoven, with no great propriety, a narrative of the well known affair of the living of Aldwinkle. Some imperfections are then noticed in our Ecclesiastical establishment; such as, "the disproportionate value of preferments;" the consequent devolution of too many duties upon one clergyman, scantily provided for; and the unavoidable

ble neglect, or the unseasonable and irreverent performance of these duties. This also the preacher calls "trying the spirits." He might as well have called it by any other name that could be devised.

To us, who are great admirers of genuine *simplicity* of style, such *pretty* affectations as the following, cannot be very acceptable: "opinions floating on the surface of the world;—the lower grades of life;—remote by the distance of about 40 *southern* miles." And, to crown all, the choice of the right way to eternal life, is styled—"a matter of the most delicate perplexity."

ART. 31. *Considerations addressed to the Clergy, on the Propriety of their bearing Arms, and appearing in a Military capacity. By a Country Incumbent.* 8vo. 16 pp. 6d. Fletcher, &c. Oxford; Deighton, Cambridge; Rivingtons, &c. London. 1798.

The author very justly commends the Armed Associations, and the zeal with which the clergy have, in most instances, concurred to promote the general good. But, "as to the fitness of the clergy serving in a military capacity, the negative may be strongly inferred, from the express command of God respecting the Jewish priesthood;—from the general character and manners of the clergy in the best ages of the Christian Church;—and from the exemptions granted by the legislature of this kingdom to the ministers of religion in general, from those services in their own persons, which have been deemed inconsistent with their religious duties." (p. 4) These topics are insisted upon, briefly, but in a way deserving of attention. It is next shown, in what modes the clergy may contribute to the defence of their country: "They are bound to act, and to act with vigour; but still to act *officially*. The proper duties of the Christian minister are not to be intermitted: they are to be seriously discharged, even amidst the bustle and anxiety of military preparations: they are then peculiarly requisite, to preserve in the minds of men that reverence of the Divine Majesty, that sense of the spirit and duties of Christianity, which will not fail to controul and counteract even the miseries of war. The clergy should, moreover, be ready to undertake any of those numerous duties and offices, however laborious or perilous, which persons, not in the actual use of arms, may discharge for the public good. They may, if circumstances require, continue at their respective residences, to secure or remove property in danger of falling into the hands of the enemy, as mentioned in the second article of the proposals printed by authority. They may assist in the removal of the inhabitants; and be employed on various other occasions, in which their knowledge may be of general or local utility. All this may be done without abdicating, for a moment, their official character; and may be so managed, as to promote the best objects of their ministry, by communicating instruction, consolation, or encouragement of a religious nature, under circumstances the most pressing upon individuals." P. 11.

The following admonition is judicious and seasonable: "If at any time it becomes the clergy of the Christian Church to attend to the obligations of their profession, and in every respect to act accordingly, *this* is the moment. They ought to know, that if in any respect they deviate from the rules of decorum, many who seem pleased with them

them on that account, are on other occasions forward to avow their contempt of the whole Order—their disapprobation of its privileges,—and their hatred of Christianity itself.” P. 13.

Very far are we from *censuring* that patriotic zeal, which has hurried some of our clergy into military array. But, a difference in point of judgment, does not imply censure. We would, therefore, desire attention to one additional consideration. If this military ardour should spread much further among clerical men, it would become probably *general* among the *younger* part of them; for, a refusal to associate would soon be reckoned disgraceful. In which case, what are the probable effects of such a step, upon the studies, habits, manners, and future characters of those, from whose learning the church is to look, a few years hence, for support and ornament; and from whose unaffectedly grave and serious demeanour, the people justly expect, at all times, to derive improvement and edification?

ART. 32. *A Discourse, delivered in the Church of St. John Baptist Wakefield, June 25, 1798, before the Society of Free and Accepted Masters of the Lodge of Unanimity (No. 202) and a numerous Assembly of Visiting Brethren from the Lodges of Leeds, Sheffield, Halifax, and Huddersfield. By Brother the Rev. Richard Munkhouse, D. D. 8vo. 30 pp. 1s. Cawthorne, Strand. 1798.*

That the British Free Masons are generally and perhaps universally, exempt from the corruptions which have been introduced into many foreign lodges, we have been always willing to believe. This zealous and pious brother represents them as a true model of Christian unanimity. Though we cannot but smile at the simplicity of heart, with which this worthy and able brother seems to adopt the extravagant fables of the antiquity and universality of his order (see pp. 8, 9, &c.) and the enthusiastic admiration which he expresses; we think his testimony in its favour, in essential points, of considerable weight. In the text of his discourse indeed he seems to insinuate a general disbelief of all the allegations against Masons, but the note subjoined is more temperate and is not inconsistent with the testimony of Abbé Barruel. This we shall insert.

“Whatever corruptions, religious, moral, or political, may (either upon the continent of Europe, or elsewhere) have *taken shelter* under the *hallowed* appellation of free-masonry, it does not concern me to inquire in this place. *I will even admit*, that amongst a people who have impiously revolted from the most sacred obligations and professions, this honourable institution may have been perverted and abused to the worst of purposes. But I must repel the preposterous insinuation that involves in one comprehensive and indiscriminate censure the proceedings in *our* lodges with those, in which it is asserted that men, calling themselves masons, have deviated from the avowed spirit and integrity of the order. No; than the true brethren of the craft, there are not, I maintain, any descriptions of their fellow subjects, who more readily, more consistently, more conscientiously discharge their several duties, as men, masons, and christians. And in briefly bearing this testimony to the brotherhood *at large*, but most especially as exist-
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ing in this country, I presume to the full extent of my own observation to add—I speak *that* I do know, and testify that I have seen." P. 17.

How the pious and Rev. brother conceives it to be proper, in a discourse from the pulpit, to introduce the cant terms of his order we do not know. To the uninitiated it seems ridiculous to employ such expressions as "to bring discredit even upon *the craft*." Still more absurd and improper appear the following phrases, which yet we believe to be introduced with perfect innocence of intention.

"Carefully *tile* (tile) your hearts, then, to the utter exclusion of that crowd of rude and boisterous assailants." P. 29.

"That *heavenly lodge*, towards which we anxiously look with meek and steady eye; where the Almighty himself eternally sits as *Grand Master*!" These are proofs, at least, that true masonry may bewilder a good understanding, if it has, which we believe, no tendency to corrupt the heart.

ART. 33. *The Death of the Righteous precious in the Sight of God. A Sermon, preached in the West Church, Aberdeen, April 17, 1796, on Occasion of the Death of the very Reverend Dr. George Campbell, late Principal, and Professor of Divinity in Marischal College. Published at the Desire of the Professors of that College, and several Others of the most respectable bearers. By William Laurence Brown, D. D. Principal of Marischal College. 8vo. 31 pp. 1s. Aberdeen, printed. Sold by Robinsons, London. 1796.*

The character of that most excellent man and admirable divine Dr. George Campbell, would stamp a value upon this discourse, had it no other merit. But that character drawn by a man also eminent and able, united by intimacy and friendship with the deceased, and his successor in his office of Principal, is yet more entitled to attention. Dr. Brown takes for his text, "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints" (Psalm cxvi. 15) which he considers in three points, as "the completion of their virtue; their deliverance from the trials and distresses of life; and their entrance into heaven." Having expatiated on these topics, with the ability which he so copiously possesses, Dr. B. then launches out into the description of his predecessor's character, which is executed in a manner worthy of both. No student in divinity, nor indeed any enquiring Christian will doubt that high encomiums must be due to the author of the "Essay on Miracles," and the new "Translation of the Gospels." Our notice of this discourse happens to be late, but we hope it will be useful.

ART. 34. *The proper Method of defending religious Truth, in Times of prevailing Infidelity. A Sermon, preached before the Synod of Aberdeen, October 11, 1796. Published by Desire of the Synod. By William Laurence Brown, D. D. Principal of Marischal College. 8vo. 30 pp. 1s. Aberdeen, printed. Sold by Robinsons, London. 1796.*

This is a discourse less striking, on many accounts, than the preceding. The learned Principal recommends moderation, patience, sincerity,

perity, and other persuasive virtues; but seems to leave it altogether to private judgment what points of religion are to be deemed essentials.

ART. 35. *A Sermon, preached before the Honourable and Right Reverend Shute, Lord Bishop of Durham and the Clergy, at a Visitation, holden at Newcastle upon Tyne, on Monday the 24th of July 1797. By Richard Proffer, D. D. Rector of Garsbread. Published at his Lordship's Request.* 4to. 20 pp. 1s. Robinsons, &c. 1797.

Of some discourses which come before us, diffusion and declamation are the characteristics; of the present, the contrary quality, compression, forms the most striking peculiarity. More reading, and knowledge of the peculiar arts of modern philosophers are condensed into the introductory pages of this sermon, than are sometimes to be traced in an extensive volume. When it is considered also, that the language is elegant, and the composition altogether well arranged and disposed, no doubt can remain that it deserves to be recommended to our readers; nor will it be thought at all difficult to understand why it was requested to be printed by a zealous and discerning prelate. The text is 2 Pet. ii, 18, and the application to the particular circumstances of the clergy, forms a concise but appropriate conclusion to the whole.

ART. 36. *Sermons on different Occasions, and on practical Duties. By the Rev. Samuel Hayes, A. M. formerly Usher of Westminster School.* 8vo. 331 pp. 5s. Cadell and Co. 1797.

The writer of these Sermons was a man of merit and ingenuity; but belonged, unfortunately for himself, to that class of ingenious men, whose talents seldom find the way to ease or affluence. Their efforts are desultory, their application irregular; and their productions, through indolence and haste, too commonly unworthy of their natural powers. The traces of this character, a sagacious reader may possibly discover for himself, in the sermons here announced, which have been collected for the benefit of the author's relief, and encouraged by the patronage of a few private and public friends. Sincerely wishing to promote the purposes of their publication, we will neither attempt unreasonably to extol them, nor seek to point out faults, which if they may be traced in studious perusal, would probably pass wholly unnoticed when the sermons were delivered from the pulpit. They are such as an unaffected preacher might pronounce, and a plain congregation receive, with credit on the one hand, and edification on the other. The topics are common and practical. In the style there is nothing peculiar or striking, nor any thing that requires to be placed before the reader in passages selected from the rest. The whole may be commended with propriety, and perused with advantage.

MEDICINE.

ART. 37. *An Inquiry into the Causes and Effects of the Variolæ Vaccinæ, a Disease discovered in some of the Western Counties of England, particularly Gloucestershire, and known by the name of the Cow-Pox. By Edward Jenner, M. D. F. R. S. &c.* 4to. 75 pp. 7s. 6d. Sampson Low, No. 7, Berwick-street. 1798.

The performance before us announces a discovery as singular and extraordinary as any perhaps this wonder-teeming age can boast. It not only professes to show that the small pox, hitherto supposed to be of foreign growth, is indigenous to this country, and the offspring of a disease frequent among cows, the variolæ vaccinæ, but that the cow-pox itself does not originate in the beast, but is occasioned by the accidental application of the matter or discharge from the greasy heels of a horse. The cow-pox, the author says, is a disease frequent in Gloucestershire, a great dairy country. It has been long observed there; and its power of affecting the human body, and of occasioning a similar disease in the persons who milk the cows, has been frequently noticed. But it is only very lately, and from accident, that it has been observed, he says, that the cow is not liable to the disease, unless the infectious matter discharged from the greasy heels of a horse be applied to its teats; and that the persons who have been affected with the cow-pox, or who have taken the disease from the cow, are incapable afterwards of receiving the infection of the small-pox. p. 64. The symptoms following the insertion of the cow-pox matter, in the human body, are similar to those consequent on inoculating with the variolous matter, but in a much milder degree. The patients are troubled with head-ach, and sickness at stomach; the pulse is quickened, and the heat of the body increased, but no pustules appear, except on the parts inoculated. The pustules are surrounded by an effervescence; and are similar to those that appear on the incisions when variolous matter is used; and the matter taken from them is capable of propagating the infection in the same manner as the matter taken from the inoculated small-pox. The circumstance that will be thought most singular is, that the matter or discharge from the greasy heels of a horse, which is supposed to communicate the infection to the cow, is said rarely to produce any sensible effect on the human skin; or when it has happened, that the hands of persons dressing the horses have been ulcered, of which instances are given, the persons so affected are not thence rendered unsuspceptible of taking the small-pox. What seems to have given rise to the supposition, for we consider it only as such, that the cow-pox does not originate in the cow, but is produced by the discharge from the greasy heels of a horse, is, that in a few instances a herd of cows has been found to be infected, part of which had been milked by men who at the time had the care of a horse or horses affected with greasy heels. But this does not seem conclusive, as the appearance of the disease at such times does not necessarily imply that the cows received the infection of the man who had the care of the horses; and the author does not say that

that the disease made its first appearance on the cows that were milked by those men. "In the month of May 1796, the cow-pox," the author says, p. 15, "broke out at Mr. Baker's, a farmer, who lives near this place. The disease was communicated by means of a cow, which was purchased in an infected state, at a neighbouring fair; and not one of the farmer's cows, consisting of thirty, escaped the contagion. The family consisted of a man-servant, two dairy-maids, and a servant boy, who, with the farmer himself, were twice a day employed in milking the cattle. The whole of the family, except Sarah Wynne, one of the dairy maids, had gone through the small-pox. The consequence was, that the farmer and the servant boy escaped the infection entirely, and the servant man and one of the maid servants had each of them nothing more than a sore on one of their fingers, which produced no disorder in the system. But the other dairy-maid, Sarah Wynne, who never had the small-pox, did not escape in so easy a manner. She caught the complaint from the cows, and was affected in so violent a degree, that she was confined to her bed, and rendered incapable of pursuing her ordinary vocations in the farm. "On the 28th of March, 1797, I inoculated," the author adds, "this girl, and carefully rubbed the variolous matter into two slight incisions made upon the left arm. A little inflammation appeared in the usual manner around the parts where the matter was inserted; but so early as the fifth day it vanished entirely without producing any effect on the system."

From the result of this and several other experiments, there seems ground to believe, that persons who have passed through the cow-pox are not liable afterwards to receive the infection of the small-pox. But as the origin of the disease in the strange cow, which is supposed to have infected the herd, is not known, the supposition that it was taken from a diseased horse remains to be investigated. The author supports his hypothesis by other arguments. In Ireland, he says, where men are never employed in milking cows, the disease is not known. To the same cause, he seems to think, (p. 65) it may be attributed, that it is also unknown in some parts of this country.

Another singularity in this disease is, that although persons who have been affected with the cow-pox are incapable of afterwards re-receiving the small-pox, yet they are liable to repeated attacks of the cow-pox, p. 50. The cow-pox is not communicable by the breath or perspiration, (p. 68) but only by the apposition of the matter or discharge from a pustule, to a part of the skin that has been abraded, scratched or cut. No pustules appear, but on the parts to which it is applied; and the fever accompanying it, it is so mild, as not to give the most distant apprehension of danger. These are facts of so much importance, and give so decided a preference to this mode of inoculating, that we cannot help expressing our concern, that the author should rest his proofs upon such a small number of experiments, and these inadequate to the purpose of producing complete conviction. Horses affected with greasy heels are at all times to be found; or if it should turn out as the author suspects, that cows are more disposed to receive the infection in the spring than at any other season, the difficulty would be very little increased.

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Let a person with his hands imbrued with the discharge from the heels of a diseased horse, milk a certain number of cows, and other cows might be inoculated by inserting a little of the matter under the skin of their teats, with a lancet. The effect would soon be seen, and the first question, whether the disease originates in the cow, or is communicated to it from the horse, would be completely decided. Our doubts, for we acknowledge we have doubts, upon this head, are strengthened by observing, (p. 72,) that a herd of cows are said to be infected with the disease, in consequence of having been milked by a man, who had the care of an erysipelatous inflammation, that had appeared on the thigh of a sucking colt, so that the discharge from the greasy heel is not the only source from which this disease is supposed to take its rise. This point being decided, a number of children should then be inoculated immediately from the cows, and others from the infected children. At the same time experiments might be made by inoculating some children with the discharge from a horse, to ascertain whether it is capable of communicating the disease, without passing through the teat of the cow, where the author supposes it goes through some material alteration. To complete the history of the disease, and to shew how nearly it is related to the small-pox, some cows might also be inoculated with variolous matter! Our readers will, we dare say, excuse the length to which we have drawn this article. Our view has been to excite the attention of the public, and to extend the knowledge of the subject to places, and among persons to whom it might not be convenient to purchase the work. Where there is so much merit as we readily confess there is in the article before us, we are concerned to be obliged to pass any censure, but as the great end of medical communications should be to diffuse as widely as possible, the knowledge of facts, that may be of general benefit, such publications should be adapted to the abilities of the persons who are intended to be purchasers; all extraneous decorations or ornaments, which may tend to enhance the price, without adding to the value, should be avoided. In this work, utility is sacrificed to splendor. By means of preposterously large margins, and loose printing, the number of pages is doubled, and by the addition of coloured engravings, which contribute nothing to the elucidation of the subject, in a medical view, the author has been obliged to put a price upon it more than three times as much as it might have been afforded for, if it had been printed in octavo, and those decorations had been omitted. The public are, however, obliged to the author for what he has communicated, and we announce with pleasure, that he is pursuing his enquiries. By these means, assisted with experiments, which we have no doubt will be made in other parts, the mystery in which the business seems to be involved will be developed.

POLITICS.

- ART. 38. *A Letter to the Author of the "Considerations upon the State of Public Affairs at the Commencement of the Year 1798." Translated from the French of M. de Calonne, &c. &c. &c. 8vo. 36 pp. 1s. Hatchard, Piccadilly. 1798.*

M. de Calonne, thinking in general very highly of the talents of Mr. Bentley (author of the *Considerations*, &c.) for political speculation, differs with him essentially in his idea of the effect of *time* in the present arduous contention. *Time*, according to the *Considerations*, is our friend and ally; according to M. de Calonne, our enemy and destroyer. These opinions, apparently so contradictory, are not perhaps in fact very remote from each other. When Mr. B. argues in favour of *time*, he seems to us principally to aim at counteracting and suppressing all remaining impatience for the conclusion of the war; an object most probably at a considerable distance, under any imaginable contingency. When Mr. C. speaks of *time* as our enemy, we conceive him chiefly to deprecate a mere reliance upon that agent, without combining every possible expedient to accelerate the final term. Mr. B. throws out, if we forget not, some hints of a reunion of powers against France, which is the chief object recommended by M. Calonne. However this may be, the speculations of this able foreigner are certainly well worthy of attention; and this they have received from the person addressed, in the most respectful manner. Under such circumstances as now exist, advice from every quarter should be compared and weighed, and every advantage taken of the collective wisdom of multitudes. The current is perhaps at length turning against the disturbers of Europe, and its new impulse should by all possible means be assisted.

- ART. 39. *A Rapid View of the overthrow of Switzerland. By an Eye-Witness. Translated from the French. 8vo. 2s. 6d. Rivingtons. 1798.*

The progress and effect of the most villainous artifice employed to destroy the once happy country of Switzerland, is here delineated with much force and perspicuity. We recommend this pamphlet to universal perusal: and we subjoin the following specimen of the manner in which it is executed*.

"With Bern, Switzerland is fallen; and, in the short space of a week, the perfidious machinations of the Directory have completed the ruin of a peaceful and quiet nation; the happiness of which was the interesting result of the wisdom of many generations and ages.

"Sensible of the general odium thrown on such an infamous conduct, the Directory endeavour to attenuate their glaring guilt, by publishing in all the newspapers which they pay, that the Swiss Government was actually making against France a clandestine war.

* We noticed the original French tract last month.

* But who could be imposed upon by such an assertion, when facts proclaim it as calumnious?—Was it then to wage a clandestine war, to adhere to a strict neutrality, whilst the blood of our sons loudly called for revenge? . . . Was it then to wage a clandestine war, to answer by acts of amity, and by good offices, to the humiliations and injuries, which you have been pleased to make us drink to the dregs? . . . Was it then to wage a clandestine war, to guard your frontiers, when the least condescension on our part would have been the cause of their certain invasion? . . . Was it then to wage a clandestine war, to supply, during three years, your armies with the horses and provisions which they were in want of? . . . Was it indeed to wage a clandestine war, when, humbly submissive, we eagerly complied with all the ridiculous or whimsical orders which your despotism was pleased to enjoin us? . . . Was it then, at last, to wage a clandestine war, when we paid to your Generals, on their passage through our country, honours which our Sovereign himself was not greeted with? . . .

“ Ah! for once be true: rather confess, that your covetous ambition aspired after the devastation and plunder which the case of that unfortunate country promised; rather confess, that, unfeelingly dooming thousands and thousands to death, you expected to find in Helvetia new warriors, who could fill up the chasms which your destroying military fury incessantly occasions in your armies; rather confess, that you wish to overturn every existing political order of things, because you may then, and then only, command without effort, and overrule people given up to anarchy? rather confess, that Swiss Liberty presented a too striking contrast to the chains you have loaded the French nation with. Confess that you were afraid lest that light might awake in them the energy necessary to break your oppressive chains, and that you wish to extend its miserable situation, and involve in it the whole world; rather confess, that you found the Helvetic Government guilty, because it deserved the just attachment of its subjects, and because, by wise œconomy, though with very small revenues, it was naturally a standing reproach to the inconceivable depredations of your Administration.” P. 75.

ART. 40. *Remonstrance addressed to the Executive Directory of the French Republic, against the Invasion of Switzerland.* By John Caspar Lavater, Rector of Zurich. 8vo. 1s. 6d. Debreit. 1798.

This spirited remonstrance of the celebrated Lavater to the French Executive Directory will probably, as it deserves, be translated into all the languages of Europe, yet it seems hardly necessary to diffuse more extensively memorials of French cruelty, injustice, and oppression. We select the following paragraphs:

“ Yet, God knows, this is not the only guilt, which presses upon the conscience of your rulers. When in open violation of the law of nations, without any formal, just declaration of war, the French troops, taking advantage of their superiority of strength, and our discord, which, it would seem, was purposely excited by some evil-minded ruler of the French Republic, had subdued, pillaged, devastated Berne, Fribourg, and Solcure; what did the *great* nation, or rather, what did
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her *angreat* agents? They advanced against our friendly canton of Zurich, and exacted the acceptance of their constitution in a violent, peremptory tone, in the language of robbers—blood or money—acceptance or war.—Silent, for the sake of peace, we accepted the constitution with unanimity; since unanimously, and without the least opposition, we had already democratized our state. Now we thought we had done every thing which could be desired; notwithstanding the arbitrary compulsion on the part of France, we were sincere in the acceptance of the constitution, though it was suspected we were not. But transactions the most unjust, proceedings the most treacherous, soon followed the first outrage. A few days after the constitution had been proclaimed and accepted, they took the liberty of substituting in its stead, without consulting any man's opinion, without reading a line, or mentioning a syllable, to the people, *just declared sovereign and free*, another constitution, framed previously to the former, and far less adapted to our state. We enjoyed the *liberty* of being forced to submit to this absurd, arbitrary substitution, but thought that every thing had now been done on our part to convince the *great*, the *matchless* nation of our boundless forbearance.

"We were promised, at least verbally, by the agents of the *great* nation, that no French troops should enter our canton, that not a *fox* should be demanded from us. Yet the very reverse happened. They had the impudence to exact from us three millions of livres. They had the cruelty to march troops into our canton, without the least previous application, to exhaust our poor innocent country. *In other words, they forced upon us the liberty of suffering ourselves to be stripped of all rational freedom.*

"All this they did under the specious pretext of subverting and punishing an aristocracy, which was no more, and which, at least among us—I say it openly, unmindful of the detractions of calumny—made no longer the least stir; besides, who vested in France the right of punishing foreign sins—foreign virtues?" P. 16.

Mr. Lavater concludes thus:

"French nation, in all thy writings thou speakest of liberty, which protects life, honour, property, loyalty, innocence; and this liberty alone deserves that name. The liberty to menace, to oppress, to pillage, to hurl destruction, is—the liberty of another great nation—*of the nation of devils.*—All blessings on him, who produces the former! throughout the universe, he shall not find a more intrepid defender than the writer of these few lines, the author of this appeal to the great nation, and to posterity, who, God knows, of all earthly blessings, craves none so earnestly as true liberty and equality. Ten thousands curses on him, who diffuses the latter; throughout the universe he shall not find a more intrepid enemy than myself. Open thy eyes, great nation, and deliver us from this LIBERTY OF HELL!

ART. 41. *An Examination of Mr. Wakefield's Reply to the Bishop of Landoff's Address.* By John Ranby, Esq. 8vo. 63 pp. 1s. 6d. Stockdale. 1798.

From the acuteness and perspicuity of the reasoning, and other honourable peculiarities in this pamphlet, we are inclined to think that

to Mr. Ranby, who here names himself, and dates from St. Edmond's Bury, we have found the anonymous *Suffolk Freeholder*, whose spirited and able Letters to Messrs. Fox and Sheridan, have at various times demanded our applause. Whether we are right or not in our conjecture, we can give no offence by making it, since the two writers, if two they are, have each too much merit not to be esteemed by the other.

Mr. Ranby thus announces the reason of his publication. "While I was writing the following sheets, I learned from a newspaper, that a bill of indictment was found against the publisher of Mr. Wakefield's Reply. In this, however, I saw no reason against my finishing the Examination of it. It is for the prosecutor to prove Mr. Wakefield's Reply to be an ill-intentioned and mischievous libel: I denounce it to the public, as an ill-written, and (except in one solitary instance) an inconclusive composition." He examines the pamphlet article by article, comparing each passage with the part of the Bishop's Address, to which it is opposed, and with great success, fulfils the promise made in his introduction. Among many passages highly worthy of attention, we cannot but admire his answer to Mr. Wakefield's formidable declaration, that within three miles of his house "there is a much greater number of starving, miserable human beings, &c. than on any equal portion of ground through the habitable globe." To this Mr. Ranby replies, with much humour, as well as truth: "This solemn affirmation, might be safely extended to fat men and lean, tall men and short, &c. &c. for Mr. Wakefield's house happens to be within three miles of London, where, to be sure, more human beings of every description are to be found, than on any equal portion of ground on the habitable globe." P. 19. He then proceeds to prove, that the poor of London have the same means of relief as other English poor, which is fully adequate, unless they add guilt to poverty, and are afraid to bring their characters to light.

Another excellent passage is the *application of the application*, subjoined by Mr. Wakefield to the old fable of the As and paniers. 'It runs thus:

"This application shews us, that if the poorer sort of people are most commonly in the wrong when they are under any concern about the revolutions of a government, they must of course be in the wrong when they pay attention to those weak, wicked, two-penny publications, that have been so industriously circulated, in order to persuade them that they are very unhappy under their present government, and would be much happier if they overturned it.

"This application further shews, that the fable is not at all applicable to the people of England, who *may* be worse off (we should say, *very much worse off*) than they are at present. For should the French ruin this country in the manner they threaten to do, and have in fact dealt by every country within their reach, there will be fewer persons able to employ so many workmen, or to pay them so well as they do at present; so that the working people will have both less work, and less wages."

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Mr.

Mr. W's *patriotism* in supposing his countrymen so much inferior to the French in courage, &c. is properly noticed, and the whole is written with point, clearness, and ability.

MISCELLANIES.

ART. 42. *Impartial Strictures on the Poem called "the Pursuits of Literature," and particularly a Vindication of the Romance of "The Monk."* 8vo. 56 pp. 3s. Bell, 141, Oxford-Street. 1798.

It is true that this writer appears to consider the satires in question with more impartiality than any other person who has come forward in the contest. He does not seem to write under the impulse of any personal affront, and allows accordingly considerable merit to the production which he attacks. He does not, however, allow that which the writer of the poem is most anxious to establish, that it is calculated in the main to promote the public welfare. "I cannot," he says, "acquiesce with him in that opinion: nor can I see how either the literature, the laws, the religion, the government, or the good manners of the country, are to derive any possible advantage from a work, whose sole object seems to be to ridicule and depreciate genius and learning of every denomination, and to lower the professors (possessors, we presume) of them in the public esteem." That this appears to be the object of the poem, we totally deny. Some petulant censures there are, which we lamented; and a part of which the author has confessed to be so, by expunging them. But the general and obvious tendency of the poem is, to depreciate only those who abuse their talents, or their learning, to the dissemination of bad taste or vicious principles; and to excite a spirit of patriotism and glorious resistance against the disorganizers of Europe. For this excellent and undeniable tendency we applaud and commend the production, with all the blemishes that can be alledged against it; we rejoice in its circulation; and we hope for its permanent success.

In the censure above-mentioned, the candour of the present writer seems to have forsaken him. But it is sufficiently manifest, from the whole of his production, that he has no warm feelings either for the government or the religion of his country. His defence of that pernicious effusion of youthful intemperance, "the Monk," is sophistical and unsound. In answer to the whole of it, we shall offer the two following *Canons of Criticism*, which we conceive to be irrefragable. 1. "That, in describing the progress of Vice, it is most vicious, and always utterly unnecessary, to give luscious and seducing descriptions of the acts pretended to be censured." 2. "That, in speaking of a sacred book, no person who has a spark of religion, or regard for it, will, or can, use such expressions as evidently tend to depreciate it, in any respect, below the most trivial and contemptible works." Against these rules Mr. Lewis has most grossly offended; and no censure that has yet been written is too severe, or in truth severe enough, to stigmatize his misconduct. When we reviewed "the Monk," it had not

yet gained any celebrity; we therefore condemned it in a few strong words, such as we thought calculated to extinguish curiosity, which might perhaps be perniciously raised by a particular account of the demerits of an indecent work. Had we written upon it at a later period, when its circulation was unhappily established, we should have sought the strongest words we could collect, to express our disapprobation and abhorrence.

ART. 43. *Memoirs of the illustrious House of Medici, from Giovanni, the Founder of their Greatness, who died in the Year 1428, to the Death of Giovanni-Gaston, the last Grand Duke of Tuscany, in 1737. illustrated with several Genealogical Tables. By Mark Noble, F. A. S. of L. & E. Rector of Barming in Kent, and Domestic Chaplain to the Earl of Leicester.* 8vo. 456 pp. 6s. Cadell and Davies. 1798.

This volume, as exhibiting a concise view of the whole family, must prove acceptable to the perusers of Mr. Roscoe's life of that great individual, Lorenzo, the Magnificent. Within the limits of four hundred and fifty pages, devoted to a subject like the present, little more than a catalogue of names, incidents, and dates, ought to be expected; nor is such a performance without its use, nor even importance. The praise of correctness must, however, be its chief ambition: and here we readily bestow it.

Mr. N. concludes thus:

"Such is the sketch of the history of the Medici, that have given many sovereigns to Florence and Tuscany, who have thrice received the triple diadem, given two queens to France, dukes to Urbino and Nemours, that have been honoured so often with the cardinalate, that they have been admitted into the most illustrious orders in the world, and have still more frequently borne the standard of the republic of Florence.

"They were beholden only to themselves for their grandeur; they have shewn what arduous tasks may be surmounted by unwearied perseverance. It fills the mind with astonishment, when we reflect that of subjects they became the sovereigns of their country; not by arms, or alliances, so much as by the most refined policy.

"Nor is it less surprising that those riches, with which they raised so many monuments to their own honour, and to the advantage and ornament of that state over which they presided, and to the world in general, were generally acquired by the most prudent and laudable means, frugality and industry. What in others was incompatible, they constantly united. The concerns of trade, which are supposed to debase the minds of others, were carried to the greatest extent by the Medici, the most refined of the sons of Adam.

"It must be allowed that their vices always kept pace with their refinements, and that they hid their crimes under some resembling virtue. But as the world have more obligations to the Medici than to any other nation that ever appeared, by their restoring and improving knowledge, learning, and elegance, it will in time obliterate their faults; their usurpation, tyranny, pride, their perfidiousness, vindictive cruelty, their parricides and incest, will be remembered no more.

Future ages will forget their atrocious crimes in a fond admiration for, and gratitude to them.

"Florence, who regarded them as the worst of enemies, purchasing their aggrandizement by the ruin of their best families, and their most virtuous citizens, now mention their beloved names only with sighs, and deplore their loss with the warmest and most lively sorrow. They will claim them as their own, will view their capital as the place whence that emanation shone forth, whose rays will illumine the world to the remotest period of time.

"A Kengis Khan, a Timur Beg, or a Charles XII. dart through the globe like meteors, and leave a momentary sensation of mingled wonder and horror. The Medici, on the contrary, have purchased a respect that all their bad actions cannot obscure, and which each succeeding age will be proud to give them.

"The same fate will attend them as attends Peter the Great. The Russians forget his ferocity in his endeavours to reform them, and to bring them from a state not far removed from their brethren of the forest, to think and to act like men.—If such a fate awaits Peter, how much more the Medici, because the Etruscans cannot turn their eyes, but they must be presented with the finest memorials of their elegance, taste, and munificence." P. 453.

We have cited this passage because, being complete within itself, it affords a fair and interesting specimen: but we cannot leave it without confessing ourselves doubtful; whether an historian, regarding the difficulty of enterprise, rather than the splendor of its consequences, would risk the glory of the Medici, his adopted nursing, by comparing it with that of *Peter the Great*?

ART. 44. *Moral Philosophy and Logic, adapted to the Capacities of Youth.* By the late R. Gilles, F. R. S. Author of the *Pleasures of Reason, and Lecturer of Philosophy.* With an Allegorical Map. 12mo. Sacl. 1798.

That every publication, should both aim at, and possess every possible correctness, is a truth readily admitted by the candidates for literary reputation; but when a work is prepared for the express purpose of instructing youth, it is doubly incumbent on its author to be careful in his assertions. That this treatise has some considerable merit (particularly the latter part) we are ready to allow, but we must be permitted to add, that there are some passages which are not only obscure, but even contrary to reason and, we may add, to truth. In his definition of beauty, this author affirms, that "beauty in man or woman, is to have every member in such a proportion, as to be adequate to their functions;" it must be obvious to every man, that any feature of the face, or limb of the body, may be perfectly adequate and proportionate to each other, and to their several functions, without possessing the smallest share of beauty. May not a leg, for instance, be in exact proportion, and adequate to the weight of the body, without coming under the denomination of beautiful? The example of the wind-mill is at least obscure, to give it no further name. In regard to the Bottle, it is the *term*, and not the idea that is false; for every school-boy

boy knows that there is always a certain proportion of air in a bottle, and when he says it is empty, he only infers that it is empty in regard to liquor. The Allegorical Map is trivial, childish, and foolish, in the extreme. We however highly approve Mr. G.'s definitions of "Consideration, Humility, Meekness and Contentment, Prudence, Fortitude, and Temperance; they are drawn up in a concise and expressive manner; and our duty to God is summed up with much piety, energy, and judgment; and we may add that, with a few exceptions, it is a work of some ingenuity and ability.

ART. 45. *Report of the Committee of Secrecy appointed to take into Consideration the treasonable Papers presented to the House of Commons of Ireland on the 17th of June last with all the Appendixes. By the Right Hon. Lord Castlereagh. Verbatim from the original Copy. Illustrated with a Map of Ireland, engraved from the Report. 8vo. 3s. 6d. Stockdale. 1798.*

We are happy to see multiplied editions of this Report, as the objects and actions of the wicked men whose conduct is here revealed cannot be too notorious. This is a neat and faithful publication, to which the map is an agreeable and useful addition.

ART. 46. *Report from the Committee of Secrecy of the House of Lords in Ireland, appointed to take into Consideration the Matters of the Sealed-up Treasonable Papers, received from the Commons on the 23d. of July last; with all the Appendixes. By the Right Hon. John Earl of Clare, Lord High Chancellor of Ireland. Verbatim from the original Copy; illustrated with a Plan of Dublin, engraved from the Report. 8vo. 1s. 6d. Stockdale. 1798.*

This properly accompanies the preceding article, and both together exhibit the most systematic scheme of villainy that, by the blessing of providence, was ever frustrated. Men, vindicated in this country by high and great characters as above even suspicion, now stand forward to the world as self-convicted traitors and assassins.

ART. 47. *Tales of the Hermitage, written for the Instruction and Amusement of the rising Generation. 18mo 1s. 6d. Vernor and Hood. 1798.*

Messrs. Vernor and Hood have distinguished themselves by publishing books which may be properly recommended to children, and this is one among that number.

ART. 48. *The Scholar's Spelling Assistant; wherein the Words, &c. are arranged on an improved Plan, calculated to familiarize the Art of Spelling and Pronunciation, remove Difficulties, and facilitate Improvement. For the Use of Schools and private Tuition. By Thomas Carpenter, Master of the Academy, Barking, Essex. Second Edition. 8vo. 1s. Lee and Hurst. 1798.*

We think this an excellent spelling-book, which (with the exception of a few errors of the press) may be adopted with benefit by masters.

ART.

ART. 49. *The Spirit of the Public Journals, for 1797; being an impartial Selection of the most exquisite Essays and Jeux d'Esprit, principally Prose, that appear in the Newspapers and other Publications; with Notes and Anecdotes of many of the Persons alluded to. To be continued Annually.* 8vo. 5s. Philips. 1798.

This publication may be called any thing but impartial, for which word, if *infamous* were inserted, there would be no great aberration from the truth. It is an imitation of a foreign work of the kind, and we believe obviously with a malicious intention. This editor's idea of impartiality, may be readily apprehended, from his selecting his "exquisite Essays," almost without exception, from one line of publication only, to which we may add, that there is some indecency, and not a little blasphemy.

ART. 50. *Minor Morals, interspersed with Sketches of Natural History, Historical Anecdotes, and Original Stories. By Charlotte Smith, Author of Rural Walks, and Rambles farther. In Two Volumes.* 12mo. 3s. Low. 1798.

We should be happy to commend, without reserve, these publications of the truly ingenious Charlotte Smith. They are, as usual, well written, and agreeably interspersed with some elegant and interesting pieces of poetry. The Kalendar of Flora, at p. 111, vol. i. is particularly beautiful. Perhaps it may be objected, that they are rather abstruse for very young personages, for whose benefit they are professedly intended; and here and there some political insinuations occur, which are calculated rather to mislead than inform a tender mind; we shall, nevertheless, be glad to see the two volumes, which in case of encouragement, are promised.

ART. 51. *An Abridgement of L. Murray's English Grammar; with an Appendix, containing an Exemplification of the Parts of Speech. Designed for the Use of the youngest Class of Learners. By Lindley Murray. Second Edition, corrected and enlarged.* 12mo. 118 pp. 1s. Bound, York, printed; Sold by Darton and Harvey, London. 1798.

An introductory book on grammar cannot be made too plain and simple, and this author has therefore done wisely in selecting from his larger work (noticed Brit. Crit. vol. viii, p. 567) such particulars as form a convenient book of imitation for children. It is not intended by the author that the present grammar should supersede his larger work, but that it should serve as an introduction to it. English Grammars are now so numerous, that selection becomes difficult; but Mr. Murray's is certainly one of those that are well executed.

ART. 52. *Exercises upon the French Grammar, with the Rules prefixed to them.* By P. Chardon, Ci-Devant Avocat au Parlement de Dijon. Second Edition, much enlarged. 12mo. 2s. Chester printed; sold by Sacl, Strand. 1798.

A pleader may be supposed to be well versed in the idioms and powers of his language. This recommendation, therefore, Mr. Chardon has above many of his brethren. The method of his book is clear, and it is not too much loaded with matter.

ART. 53. *Gretna Green, or Cupid's Introduction to the Temple of Hymen; describing many curious Scenes, Love Anecdotes, and Characters, in Prose and Verse: calculated for the Entertainment of both Sexes.* By Cupid's Secretary, A. M. 12mo. 48 pp. 6d. Milne. 1798.

An idle work for idle people, and not cheap at the 6d. charged for it, though adorned with a stolen map of the Land of Matrimony. The value is, 0.

ART. 54. *The Natural History of the Year, being an Enlargement of Dr. Aikin's Calendar of Nature.* By Arthur Aikin. 12mo. 2s. 6d. Johnson. 1798.

This book, the spirit and object of which we have constantly approved, now appears with many acceptable additions, in this its fourth edition. We are happy to recommend it generally, but to young persons in particular.

ART. 55. *Amusing Recreations, or a Collection of Charades and Riddles on Political Characters, and various Subjects; dedicated to Lady Onslow.* By Mrs. Pilkington.

This lady has a most indefatigable pen; but its productions are, nevertheless, often and much entitled to praise. There are many very good charades in this collection; and the charades are better than the riddles.

ART. 56. *Sentimental and Humorous Essays, conducive to Economy and Happiness; drawn from common Sayings, and Subjects which are full of Common Sense, the best Sense in the World.* By Noah Webster, Author of the *Effects of Slavery; in the Manner of Dr. Franklin.* 12mo. 1s. Arch. 1798.

Perhaps it would not be easy to find so good a shillingworth of entertainment and instruction as in this agreeable miscellany. There is a quaintness which distinguishes the writings of many of our transatlantic brethren, but which has considerable effect in such a publication as the present.

ART. 57. *Observations on the Manners and Customs of Italy; with Remarks on the vast Importance of British Commerce on that Continent: also Particulars of the wonderful Explosion of Mount Vesuvius, taken on the Spot at Midnight, in June, 1794, when the beautiful and extensive City of Torre del Greco was buried under the blazing River of Lava from the Mountain. Likewise an Account of many very extraordinary Cures, produced by a Preparation of Opium, in a Variety of obstinate Cases, according to the Practice in Asia; with many Physical Remarks, collected in Italy, well deserving the Attention of most Families. By a Gentleman, authorized to investigate the Commerce of that Country with Great Britain.* 8vo. 6s. Cadell and Davies. 1798.

A long residence in Italy (upwards of eleven years) has given the author an opportunity of making many observations on the manners and customs of the Italians; but as this is a ground that has been often trodden, we followed this author over it without feeling ourselves much interested. The account he gives of the females is not much to their credit; we presume the colouring is high, for a regular system of prostitution seems to prevail through all ranks. The instance he gives of the nun, in p. 62, is so bare-faced, that, had not the author been witness to it, we should have said *non credimus*. He describes some critical situations of his own. One where he goes to bed in a convent with a married lady, an English woman, whom he had introduced in a male habit, and then says, *Evil to him that evil thinks*. We think that the relation of some of his adventures had better been omitted.

We had formed expectations of some new discovery with regard to the effects of opium, which, the author gravely tells us, he has known to relieve many patients in excruciating pains; but we understand it is only his pure opium, a present from a Turkish gentleman, or a preparation of it, that has such peculiar virtues. Indeed if Dr. Brooke (for, in the course of his travels, he is dubbed M. D. at Rome) can with his preparation "procure a fine bloom to ladies advanced in life, and make them appear younger," we need not hesitate to predict, that he will be more courted in this country than ever he was as a cicisbeo in Italy.

ART. 58. *Scripture Histories: or, Interesting Narratives extracted from the Old Testament, for the Instruction and Amusement of Youth.* By Mrs. Pilkington. 8vo. 162 pp. 2s. 6d. Newbery. 1798.

We recommend this little work to the notice of those persons, who have the important charge of educating young females. It is more particularly calculated, for correcting and reclaiming, by gentle and kind methods, those unfortunate children, whose dispositions and manners have been spoiled by a cruel neglect of their education; or by an excessive, and scarcely less cruel, indulgence.

ART. 59. *Emigration to America, candidly considered. In a Series of Letters, from a Gentleman resident there, to his Friend in England.* 8vo. 64 pp. 2s. Rickman, Upper Mary-le-bone Street. 1798.

The editor tells us that these Letters were written "by a gentleman who visited America with the intention of emigrating thither; but who,

who, upon a year's residence in various parts, a close observation of the country, its climate, and the manners and morals of its inhabitants, relinquished all such intention. Their publication," he adds, "may save others the trouble of making a similar experiment." They are certainly worthy of much attention in that point of view; being written with method and judgment, and calculated to resolve the leading questions on which such a decision would probably turn. The editor very unnecessarily gives a bad impression of himself, by referring to the writings of Paine, Volney, Godwin, &c. Such a testimony, however, against emigration to America, is more decisive than any other.

ART. 60. *Virtue's Friend: consisting of Essays, first published periodically, on Subjects connected with the Duty and Happiness of Mankind. Vol. I. 12mo. 2s. 6d. Johnson. 1798.*

This little manual contains some very elegant and well-written papers; and we recommend it very readily as a suitable present to young persons.

FOREIGN CATALOGUE.

FRANCE.

ART. 61. *Essai sur les antiquités du Nord et les anciennes langues septentrionales; par Charles Pougens. Paris, an V.*

The author observes, that in order to make discoveries in Northern Antiquities, we should begin by studying the ancient dialects of those countries, in the text itself of writers whose works are but little known to the learned of modern times. There exists in these dialects many manuscripts which may serve to throw considerable light on the history of the Scythians, the Goths, the inhabitants of Iceland; on their religion, their manners, their literature.

Mr. P. then proceeds to give some account of the origin and use of the *Runic*, a kind of hieroglyphic, or stenographic, character, which preceded the invention of the Grecian alphabet. These characters are found on monuments which appear to him to be of the highest antiquity, on tombs which, according to *Rudbeck*, have existed ever since the third century after the deluge. We conceive, however, that, whatever number of these tombs may have been examined by him, he

is greatly deceived in regard to the antiquity which he assigns to them, and should rather be disposed to subscribe to the opinion of Professor *Ibrt* of the university of Upsel, who has shown that all the Runic monuments hitherto discovered, are of a date posterior to the Christian era.

We are less embarrassed to point out the epoch when these characters ceased to be in use among the northern people. This was about the year 1000. *Erie Schroderus*, in the preface to his *Latino-Scandinavian Lexicon*, cites the following passage of an ancient manuscript which he had occasion to consult: "Olaus, King of Sweden, attributing to the Runic character the difficulty which the Christian religion found in introducing itself into this kingdom, assembled in the year 1001 all the grandees of his own country, when it was unanimously resolved to substitute the Roman letters in their place, and the king likewise caused all the books relative to idolatry to be burnt. Unfortunately the greatest part of those which contained the history and antiquities of the nation was also comprized in this general proscription."

We shall not follow the author in his researches into the antiquity of certain northern languages, with the relation which they bear to each other, and to the ancient Persian, Greek, Roman, and to all modern languages. Mr. *P.* has been very concise, so that to give our readers a full idea of his work, we should be under the necessity of transcribing his book.

But we shall observe as a proof of the utility of these researches, that they have led him to the discovery of certain historical facts, and enabled him to elucidate others. It is thus that we may hope to penetrate still further into the knowledge of the religion, the manners, the usages, and emigrations of different people.

For example, in analysing the work of the celebrated *Hicks*, Mr. *P.* informs us, after him, that the use of *juries* existed from immemorial time in Scandinavia, that from thence it passed to the Anglo-Normans, and afterwards introduced itself into Great Britain.

From the fragment of a manuscript in Runic characters, containing the history of *Hjalmar*, King of *Biarmlandia*, with a translation of which we are here presented, may be collected some very curious and valuable information respecting the manners, the superstition, and the literature of the ancient inhabitants of the North.

Espr. d. Journ.

ART. 62. *Voyage dans l'intérieur des Etats unis, à Bath, Winchester, dans la vallée de Shenandaba, &c. par M. Ferdinand Bayard.* Un vol. in 8vo. Paris.

After having read the *Lettres du Cultivateur Americain*, the *Voyages de Chatellux*, and those of *Brissot*, we did not expect that the work of another traveller to the United States would so soon have excited our attention; the present author has, however, not exactly trod in the steps of those who have gone before him; he has particularly attached himself to the description of the private life, to the occupations and amusements of the people of America. He has observed likewise the vices which begin to insinuate themselves among the mercantile classes, vices which will soon

sooner or later bring on a revolution destructive of the state. He enters also into an account of the treatment experienced by the negroes, shows clearly, that these unfortunate people do not enjoy that happiness which the *Durfi* of America, *Crevecoeur* allows them. An anecdote mentioned by our traveller gives us an idea of the application which the planters make of a passage in the Bible to justify their barbarity towards their slaves.

Religion has too powerful an influence not to have fixed the attention of Mr. B. he has accordingly not neglected to make himself acquainted with the different sects of North America: they have almost all of them that melancholy character which the reformers of the sixteenth century have impressed on their doctrines. The methodists, more especially, distinguishing themselves by their fanaticism, and by the alarming effects which their preaching often produces. We have likewise here an interesting picture of the manners of the original inhabitants of the country, of their battles, their feasts, their songs of victory, and of their religious opinions. *Ibid.*

ART. 63. *Précis des caractères génériques des insectes disposés dans un ordre naturel; par le citoyen Latreille; 1 vol. in 8vo. Paris.*

To the time of *Fabricius*, insects had been divided only according to vague characters, arbitrarily taken from their external appearance. The celebrated Professor of Kiel has arranged them in a more certain and satisfactory manner, after the orders of manducation; but his method likewise presents such difficulties, partly on account of the smallness of the organs which form its basis, and partly because they can seldom be examined in dried insects without destroying them, that but few naturalists have entirely followed it. Mr. L. therefore unites in his work the rigour of the characters of the new, with the facility of those of the ancient method, and has thus certainly rendered both more perfect than they had heretofore been. *Ibid.*

ART. 64. *Essai sur les ouvrages physico-mathématiques de Leonard de Vinci, avec des fragmens tirés de ses manuscrits apportés de l'Italie, lu à la première classe de l'institut national, par J. B. Venturi, professeur de physique à modene. Paris, 1797; 4to.*

These manuscripts form 12 volumes. Eight of them are nothing more than small *cahiers* covered with parchment. It seems that L. de V. generally carried them with him, for the purpose of designing on them models of machines, geometrical figures, &c. and of fixing such ideas as might otherwise have escaped his memory. The other four are of a larger size; one of them contains observations upon light. *Ibid.*

ART. 65. *Elémens d'algèbre, par Clairant, cinquième édition, avec des notes et des additions, tirées en partie des leçons données à l'école normale par Lagrange et Laplace, et précédées d'un traité élémentaire d'arithmétique. 2 vols. in 8vo. Paris.*

This work is disposed in such a manner as to present two courses, the one more extensive and adapted to the use of those persons who are desirous

desirous of knowing all the improvements made in this science, in the present times; the other elementary, for the instruction of those who have yet made little or no progress in it. The additions are made by *S. F. Lacroix*,

GERMANY.

ART. 66. *Lehrbuch der Geschichte der Philosophie, und einer cretischen Litteratur derselben, von Joh. Gottlieb Buhle Zweyter Theil.—Elements of the History of Philosophy, by J. G. Buhle. Vol. II; 575 pp. in 8vo. Göttingen. 1797.*

The author had originally intended to have limited his work to *three* volumes. We conceive, however, that an alteration must now take place in his plan, as this *second* volume comprizes only the Platonic and Aristotelic system, and of the latter not indeed the whole, but the theoretic part only. Three volumes more will, therefore, at least, be necessary to complete the work. That the author should have been particularly full and circumstantial in regard to *Plato* and *Aristotle*, because of their superior importance, we cannot certainly but approve. The account of their lives, with the critical and literary notices, respecting their works, commentators, and other writings, to which they have given occasion, occupies a very considerable space (on *Plato* 43 pp. and on *Aristotle*, from p. 276 to p. 354) and is, as the result of much reading and investigation, very valuable. This is, more especially, the case in regard to *Aristotle*. The ancient commentaries are constantly referred to, in a manner, which shows that the author has not merely copied from others, but that he has depended chiefly on his own judgment; which may likewise be observed with respect to the more considerable modern writers. In a few instances only we feel ourselves obliged to differ from him, as where he gives to *Voigt's* translation of the *Books on the Soul*, the unqualified character of *valuable*, and where he calls that of the *Ethics* by *Jenische*, *very defective*.

In the Aristotelic philosophy, the author has, in § 257, presented the outlines of the system, to which, however, he has not altogether confined himself, in the prosecution of the work, having adopted an arrangement peculiar to himself. He first endeavours to develop Aristotle's idea of system, of philosophy, and its parts; after which follows his Theory of the Powers of the Soul. To this succeed Logic, chiefly according to the *Organon*; Natural Philosophy after the *Physics*, and partly after the book *de Caelo*, Metaphysics, and, lastly, Psychology, which Mr. B. considers as a necessary supplement to Metaphysics.

Jena ALZ.

ART. 67. *Johann Rudolph Schlegel's Rech. am Gymn. zu Heilbrunn. Kirchengeschichte des achtzehnten Jahrhunderts. Dritter und letzter Band. Erste Abtheilung.—J. R. Schlegel's Ecclesiastical History of the Eighteenth Century. First Part of Vol. III.—Likewise with the following title:*

Johann

Johann Lorenz von Mosheim's *vollständige kirchengeschichte des neuen Testaments, aus desselben gesammelten grössern Werken, und aus andern bewährten Schriften mit Zusätzen vermehrt, und bis auf die neuesten Zeiten fortgesetzt. Siebenter Band, welcher die Geschichte des achtzehnten Jahrhunderts enthält; von J. R. Schlegel.*—J. L. v. Mosheim's complete Ecclesiastical History of the New Testament, compiled from his larger Works, and other authentic Writings, with Additions, and continued to the present Time. Vol. VII, containing the History of the present Century, by J. R. Schlegel. Heilbronn; 506 pp. 1.8vo.

The continuation of this work, since the death of Schlegel, has fallen into good hands. Mr. J. J. Fraas, of Frauenbach near Heilbronn, has not only added to it new collections from the best sources, but he has likewise enriched it with several valuable dissertations. We did not indeed expect that, after the *Remainder of the History of the Eighteenth Century*, as it is expressed in the title, with that of the reformed church, the *unitas fratrum*, the Mennonites, &c. had already been given in the *second and last part of the sixth and last volume*, which appeared so early as the year 1788, the *general History of the Christian Church* for the century should, in the seventh volume, commence with that of the different *missions*, which ought properly to have taken the lead. In so extensive a work, however, this error against method will be the more readily excused. We find indeed, in the *fifth volume* of the work, a *Missionary History* for this century, but this given in the present volume is much more complete.

The volume begins with an account of the *Missions of the Roman Catholic Church*, p. 11. After some general observations upon them, they follow in this order: I. *Tibet*, p. 26—40. The author has, from the latest accounts, brought together here much useful matter, though it does not all relate to the Mission of Georgi's *Alphabetum Tibetarum*, he seems to have known the title only. II.—V. *Sunkin, Cocbin-China, Siam, and the Peninsula on this side the Ganges*. We have here likewise authentic and valuable notices, accompanied with useful illustrations. In p. 106, he observes, that "however much we may complain against the Jesuits, they have acted, in their endeavours to make profelytes, like men who possessed wisdom and a knowledge of the world." The evangelical Missionaries at *Tranquebar*, have also, it seems, vindicated the conduct of the Jesuits in the East-Indies towards the different casts.

But the *Mission to China*, "the central point of the Asiatic Missions of the Roman Catholic Church," is that to which the author has paid the greatest attention, pp. 121—306. He begins with an account of the character of the Chinese, of their language, and of the different religions which have been propagated among them; combatting the ungrounded assertions of *Somnerat*, and tracing back the history of the missions to its first origin. In this part he has chiefly depended on the authority of the celebrated Hungarian Abbé and historian, *George Pray*, in his *Historia controversiarum de ritibus sinicis, ab earum origine ad finem compendio deducta*, published at Pest, Buda, and Ratschau, in the year 1789. He has been enabled by means of this work to discover many errors which Protestant writers, and even *Mosheim* himself, have committed in their accounts of modern Chinese ecclesiastical history.

history. We are afraid, however, that the author may have placed too unbounded a confidence in the ex-jesuit *Pray*, nor are we always perfectly satisfied with the proofs adduced in confirmation of some of his assertions; as, for instance, where he denies that the Jesuits ever carried on any trade in China.

Japan is represented as a kingdom no longer accessible to Missionaries; we are, however, here presented with the history of the former mission, and of its termination, though the author will not venture to pronounce whether the well known letters, which were attended with such unfortunate consequences, were genuine, or otherwise; pp. 306—326. This is followed with an account of the suppression of the mission in *Abyssinia*, and of the ineffectual attempts which were made to restore it; as also with some information respecting the new mission at *Madagascar*, pp. 326—337, the *American* missions, and, p. 415, the secret missions from the holy see among the Protestants.

From p. 441 to the end of this volume, we have the history of the different missions sent from countries *not Catholic* to *France, Madras*, and other Anglo-East-Indian possessions; as also the Danish missions. The history of the missions is not completed in this volume.

Ibid.

RUSSIA.

ART. 68. *Von Gottes Sohn der Welt Heiland, nach Johannes Evangelium Nebst einer Regel der Zusammensetzung unserer Evangelien aus ihrer Entstehung und Ordnung, von J. G. Herder.*—*Of the Son of God, the Saviour of the World, according to the Gospel of John, together with a Criterion by which we may be enabled to judge of the Agreement of the Gospels, from the Consideration of their Origin and Order; by J. G. Herder.*—Like-wise with the following title:

Christliche Schriften, von J. G. Herder, Dritte Sammlung.—*Christian Writings, by J. G. Herder. Third Collection; VIII and 416 pp. 8vo. Riga, 1797.*

The *first section* of this work contains a sort of Introduction. The author, in p. 33, declares himself in favour of the opinion, that John was arrived at an advanced age when he wrote this Gospel. He likewise vindicates, in p. 29, the authenticity of the 21st chapter. The *second section* is chiefly employed in explaining the introduction to the Gospel John I. 1—18. In the *third and fourth section*, Mr. H. proceeds to the elucidation of the Gospel itself, which he divides into *two parts*. The first of these includes Ch. I—IX, and the second Ch. XII—XXI; in the latter, the Evangelist gives an account of the last days of our Lord. A complete translation of the Gospel, with a commentary on it, must not here be expected; it is rather the object which the author proposed to himself, to place the reader in that point of view, from which he might so consider every part of the history, as to find it most instructive and edifying. This section therefore contains many excellent observations, chiefly of a practical, together with some, not less valuable, of an exegetical kind.

The

The second part of this volume presents, what the author calls, a criterion by which we may be enabled to judge of the agreement of the Gospels from the consideration of their origin and order. To his observations on what was to be regarded as originally necessary to constitute a Gospel, and on the first Hebrew Gospel, we are ready to subscribe; though we cannot accede to his opinion relative to the three Gospels of *Matthew*, *Mark*, and *Luke* now extant. The author will not allow either that *Mark* has abridged *Matthew*, or that his Gospel is a compilation from those of *Matthew* and *Luke*; but maintains, on the contrary, that he was the first of the three who composed a Gospel, which therefore came the nearest to the original Hebrew Gospel, whereas, in the others, considerable additions were made to it. As this opinion is expressed in strong terms in pp. 329, 30, 44, 45, &c. though no satisfactory arguments are adduced to confute that rendered so probable by *Griesbach*, that the Gospel of *Mark* was compiled from those of *Matthew* and *Luke*, we consider this to be the most objectionable part of an otherwise useful and valuable work. *Ibid.*

ART. 69. *Statistische Uebersicht der Statthaltertschaften des Russischen Reichs in Tabellen*, von Henreich Storch.—*Statistical View of the Provinces of the Russian Empire, in Tables*, by H. Storch; 131 pp. 8m. fol. Riga.

The whole of this work consists of 45 Tables, together with supplements, exhibiting the results of the details contained in them. One of these tables is allotted to each province, in which an account is given, from the most approved sources, of its extent, in square miles and wersts, divisions, principal cities and towns, population, and the present state of its cultivation. As we cannot pursue the author through the detail of the Tables, we will present our readers with some of the results from them. The whole empire, exclusively of the new Polish provinces, contains 335,267 square miles. The 61° of latitude is that under which Russia has the greatest superficies. It is likewise exactly the centre of the empire, which extends from 42½ to 78°. The number of inhabitants is estimated at 33,000,000 souls, exclusively likewise of the new Polish acquisitions. According to a probable calculation, the number of souls to a square mile for the whole empire, may be reckoned at 108½, but in European Russia 405½, and in Asia 11½ only. With a list of 610 towns the number of the inhabitants is likewise given; but this does not comprise more than half the Russian towns, of which there are at least 1200, the number of inhabitants in many of which falls considerably short of 1000. In all of them together, Mr. St. reckons 3,500,000 souls. A statement is likewise here given of the exports from all the Russian ports for the year 1793, as also the imports into Petersburg in 1794, the former of which, in the productions of the vegetable kingdom, amounted to 22,616,021, and in Russian manufactures to 19,443,273 roubles. The different prices of various articles are likewise marked, which, in regard to many of them, have been increased threefold. Lastly, we have here also an account of the expence of the civil establishment in 42 provinces, together with that of the usual amount of the imperial revenues in several of them.

ACKNOW-

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS TO CORRESPONDENTS:

Dr. Valpy's Letter has been received, and we think him entitled to our thanks.

We also thank *A. Z.* for his communication.

"*The Suffolk Freeholder*," for whom we entertain the truest respect, informs us of a trifling error in our Review for July, that "the Thoughts, &c. on Mr. Fox's Secession," should not be called a Letter, for his correspondence has been confined entirely to *Mr. Sheridan*.

We can assure *Mr. Thompson*, of Dublin, that we did not receive the Letter to which he alludes; we feel ourselves much obliged by the handsome and liberal terms in which he expresses himself; and lament in common with him, the atrocious circumstances detailed in the conclusion of his sensible and acceptable communication.

LITERARY INTELLIGENCE.

Mr. Kett's work on *Prophecy*, in two volumes, large duodecimo, may be expected from the University press of Oxford, in the course of next month.

A volume of *Sermons*, by the venerable and learned *Dr. Maclaine*, the translator of *M. Scheim's Ecclesiastical History*, is in the press.

Sir William Jones's works, in five volumes, quarto, will be published by Messrs. Robinsons before Christmas.

Mr. Poulter, of Winchester, assisted by some literary friends, has made considerable progress in the *History of Hampshire*.

Mr. Curtis's magnificent work of the *Flora Londinensis* has received its final completion.

Dr. Thornton's illustration of the sexual system of *Linnaeus* is nearly finished.

Dr. Bloch's very beautiful work on *Fishes*, is completed at Berlin.

Mr. Fry has published proposals for a work, which he calls *Pantographia*, and which is to be an illustration of every known alphabet.

Mr. Pennant proposes, in the course of the winter, to publish an *Appendix* to his *History of Hindoostan*.

Mr. Ailwood has made considerable progress in a *Literary History of Greece*.

An annual work, under the title of *Public Characters*, consisting of Biographical Memoirs of the most distinguished Living Personages, who are natives of Great Britain or Ireland, is about to be commenced.

THE
BRITISH CRITIC,
For OCTOBER, 1798.

Nemo ad scribendum accedat, ac pteelo scriptum subjiciat, præterquam is, qui aut utiliter aliquid monere ac suadere, aut nova tradere, aut antiqua melius declarare possit. HENR.

Let no one attempt to write, or commit his writing to the press, except he can suggest or inculcate something useful ; unless he can either deliver something new, or place what was before known in a better point of view.

ART. I. *Transactions of the Royal Society of Edinburgh.*
Vol. IV. 4to. 1l. 1s. Boards. Dickson and Balfour,
Edinburgh ; Cadell and Davies, London. 1798.

THE Royal Society of Edinburgh follows the mode of publication which the Royal Academy of Sciences at Paris adopted, in communicating to the world their valuable articles of information. The present volume, like the three which preceded it, is divided into two parts : the first contains the History of the Society, with an Appendix ; and the second contains the papers, arranged in two classes, the Physical and the Literary.

The History is not merely an account of the business and proceedings of each particular meeting of the society ; it also contains abstracts of such papers as have been read, but are not inserted in the volume. We shall lay before our readers one of these abstracts as a specimen, making occasional remarks on it.

B b

" At

BRIT. CRIT. VOL. XII, OCT. 1798.

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" At this meeting (April 3, 1793) was read a paper on Trigonometry, entitled, An Easy and General Method for solving all the Cases of Plane and Spherical Triangles, by the Reverend Walter Fisher, Minister at Cranston.

" It has long been an object with mathematicians, to reduce the rules of Trigonometry to the smallest number possible, and to give them the form most easily retained in the memory. Lord NAPIER, whose discoveries have so much facilitated and abridged the labour of numerical calculation, applied himself to simplify the rules of Trigonometry with great success. He invented the rule of the *Circular Parts*, which gives an apparent unity to theorems, where a real unity is wanting, and is perhaps the most fortunate attempt toward an *Artificial Memory* that has been made by any of the moderns.

" Various improvements of this rule have since been proposed. That of M. PINGRE is one of the best; he retains Lord NAPIER's arrangement of the circular parts, and reduces the rules of Spherical Trigonometry to four; the two first of which are NAPIER's, and the other two a generalization of the common theorems respecting the segments, into which the perpendicular, drawn to any side of a spherical triangle, divides that side, and also the angle from which it is drawn. See *Mem. Acad. Sciences*, 1756, p. 301. There is a fifth rule, it must be observed, necessary for the case, when the three sides or three angles of the triangle are given, as this case refuses to submit to NAPIER's rule in any form of it.

" The author of the paper now communicated to the society, has also been successful in his attempt to render the rules of Trigonometry easily retained in the memory. He employs the circular parts, and makes use of fewer rules than M. PINGRE, as he has only four, including one for the case just mentioned.

" The Theorems Mr. FISHER employs are not new, but they are judiciously selected, and are less embarrassing in the application than either those* of NAPIER or PINGRE. They are as little as possible subject to ambiguity; they do not require letting fall a perpendicular, and they apply both to Plane and Spherical Triangles."

After reading this last paragraph, we regretted that Mr. Fisher's Essay had not been published at full length; as, from this account, it appears to have been very valuable. The abstract proceeds:

" M denotes the *middle part* of the triangle, and must always be assumed betwixt two given parts. It is either a side, or the supplement of an angle.

" A and a are the two parts adjacent to the middle, and of a different denomination from it.

* It should have been "those either."

† The words "of a different denomination from it," are superfluous.

"O and o denote the two parts opposite to the adjacent parts, and of the same denomination with the middle part.

"l is the last or most distant part, and of a different denomination from the middle part.

THEOREM I.

$$\text{Sin. } A : \text{fin. } a :: \text{fin. } O : \text{fin. } o$$

THEOR. II.

$$\text{Sin. } \frac{A-a}{2} : \text{fin. } \frac{A+a}{2} :: \text{tang. } \frac{O-o}{2} : \text{tang. } \frac{O+o}{2}$$

THEOR. III.

$$\text{Tang. } \frac{A-a}{2} : \text{tang. } \frac{A+a}{2} :: \text{tang. } \frac{O-o}{2} : \text{tang. } \frac{O+o}{2}$$

THEOR. IV.

$$\text{Sin. } A \times \text{fin. } a : 1 :: \text{fin. } \frac{A+a+l}{2} \times \text{fin. } \frac{A+a-l}{2} : \text{fin. } \frac{M}{2}$$

"It is obvious that these four theorems apply to Plane Triangles, providing that instead of the sine or tangent of a side you take the side itself."

Such are Mr. Fisher's four Theorems, as they stand in the volume before us. The mathematical reader would have relished them better, had they been accompanied with demonstrations. In their present state they are questionable; for, by combining the second and third, we obtain,

$$\text{Sin. } \frac{A-a}{2} : \text{fin. } \frac{A+a}{2} :: \text{tang. } \frac{A-a}{2} : \text{tang. } \frac{A+a}{2}$$

that is, the ratio of the sines equals the ratio of the tangents, which is absurd, and consequently either the one or the other, or perhaps both, must be wrong. How this could escape the learned council of the Edinburgh Royal Society, we know not; but it strikes the mathematical eye at the first glance.

The next abstract is a long one, of a paper by Dr. Hutton, on the Philosophy of Light, Heat, and Fire.

Dr. Hutton was led into the speculations contained in this dissertation, by an account of two experiments made by M. M. Saussure and Pictet, of Geneva, and recorded in Saussure's *Voyages dans les Alpes*, tom. ii, § 926. In these experiments, two concave mirrors were placed opposite and parallel to each other, about twelve feet distant. In the focus of one of them was placed an iron ball, which had been heated to incandescence, but allowed to cool till it was no longer luminous in the dark. In the focus of the other speculum a thermometer was placed, which presently rose 8 degrees (of Reaumur's scale)

above another placed near it, without the focus. M. Saussure supposes the existence of what former philosophers have called *radiant heat*, which he conceives to be reflected in the same manner that light is, and by such means to have produced the effect on the thermometer. To this solution Dr. Hutton objects, because it ascribes properties to heat which are inconsistent with our notions of it; he therefore proposes another explanation of the phenomenon. He says, "the iron ball, after it had lost all light to the eye, still continued to emit rays of light, which, though they made no impression on the organ of vision, had power to produce heat, and expand the mercury in the thermometer." What Mr. Saussure calls *radiant heat*, Dr. Hutton calls *obscure or invisible light*.

The remaining part of the paper contains several arguments, deduced from phenomena, for supporting this opinion of the existence of invisible light, which are ingenious, though many of them might be easily refuted*.

An abstract of a paper by Dr. Balfour, of Calcutta, on the Diurnal Variations of the Barometer, is highly curious and interesting. The situation in which these observations were made, entitles them to peculiar attention; for it is well known, that between and near the tropics the barometer is very steady, and free from those great and sudden changes which take place in higher latitudes. In such situations, therefore, the smaller periodical variations of the barometer, if they exist at all, are most likely to be discovered. To ascertain these, Dr. Balfour imposed on himself the arduous task of observing the barometer every half hour, for an entire lunation, namely, from the new moon on March 31, to the new moon on April 29, 1794. The result was, the discovery of a periodical variation of the barometer, consisting of two oscillations, which it performs regularly every twenty-four hours.

" 1st. Every day the barometer constantly fell between 10 at night and 6 in the morning; and this it did progressively without any intermediate rising, except in one instance.

" 2d. Between 6 and 10 in the morning the barometer constantly rose; and also progressively, and rarely with any intermediate falling.

" 3d. Between 10 in the morning and 6 in the evening the barometer fell progressively, without a single exception.

" 4th. Lastly, between 6 and 10 in the evening, the barometer rose progressively, without any intermediate falling, except in one instance."

* See a full answer to Dr. Hutton in our seventh volume, p. 351.

The quantity of these diurnal variations is small, but it is sufficient to leave no doubt of their reality. The difference between the contiguous maximum and minimum is about the tenth, generally less, and sometimes only the twentieth part of an inch.

Similar results, but not nearly so accurate, have been deduced from some observations made in Europe. See the *Ephemerides of Mannheim* for 1783, and the *Journal de Physique* for 1792 and 1794.

The other parts of the History are not so material. Dr. Wilson's paper on the Effects of Opium contains the account of several experiments, with conclusions. This essay has been published separately.

The Appendix to the History contains the lists of new members, of donations, of deceased members, and the four following biographical articles.

I. Account of the Life of Lord Abercromby. By Henry Mackenzie, Esq.

We have often admired the elegant style of the author of the *Man of Feeling*; and, in this account of his intimate and worthy friend, Lord Abercromby, he shines with his wonted lustre.

After a narrative of Mr. Abercromby's parentage and education, we are informed that he was admitted to the bar in the year 1766.

"He rose with great rapidity in his profession, and was among the best employed barristers of his standing in Scotland." Yet "the laborious employments of his profession did not so entirely engross him as to preclude his indulging in the elegant amusements of polite literature. He was one of that society of gentlemen, who, in 1779, set on foot the periodical paper, published at Edinburgh during that and the succeeding year, under the title of the MIRROR, and who afterwards gave to the world another work of a similar kind, the LOUNGER, published at Edinburgh in 1785 and 1786."

He was appointed Judge in the Court of Session in May, 1792, and, in December following, he was called to the Bench in the Court of Justiciary*. Mr. Mackenzie gives him a

* It may be proper to inform such of our readers as are unacquainted with the Courts in Scotland, that the Court of Session consists of fifteen Judges, including the Lord President. In this Court civil causes only are tried. The Court of Justiciary is the criminal Court, and consists of six Judges, one of whom presides, and is called the Lord Justice Clerk. All these six Judges of the Court of Justiciary are taken from the fifteen Lords of the Court of Session.

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very high character as a judge. The whole of it is too long for our limits; but we shall insert the two concluding paragraphs.

" His speaking was slow and deliberate, and in that cool and solemn manner which becomes a judicial opinion; yet like his appearance at the bar, it did not fail in animation when it was directed to the censure of unfairness, to the detection of dishonesty, or to the rebuke of oppression. He was of particular use in the *civil court*, by an attention to the proceedings, and to the checking of any impropriety in the conduct of the business. On this ground his own strict observance of propriety gave him great advantage. When he did censure, even when there was occasion for severity, it was with so much gravity and dignity of manner, and so much temperance of expression, as to ensure the approbation of the impartial, as to impress conviction, as well as to impose silence, on the censured. Lord ABERCROMBY possessed those virtues and accomplishments which invest the station of a judge with an authority the most venerable and the most persuasive. Purity of mind and of character, a nice sense of honour and decorum, a delicacy of private and a dignity of public deportment; these are at all times most important qualities in a judge; at no time perhaps so much as at the present, when they are so essential to conciliate the esteem and command the reverence of the people for the magistracy and the constitution of their country.

" To the *criminal court* those qualities are peculiarly appropriate. In that court, the judge is the organ of the offended majesty of the law; his deportment ought to be suited to that function, grave, deliberate, decided. Above the atmosphere of the passions, he may speak with severity, but never with resentment; and his duty is too solemn and too majestic, to admit of the light or frivolous, either in manner or in expression. Yet amidst the unbending declaration of the law, and the steady decision of its minister, he may, and in some cases ought to feel that dignified compassion for human frailty, which tempers the rigour, but does not detract from the awfulness of justice. Such was the deportment of Lord ABERCROMBY. The firmness of his mind, and the dignity of his demeanour were particularly called forth at that momentous juncture, when the decisions of the criminal court of Scotland vindicated the laws, and upheld the constitution, against the daring attacks of turbulence and sedition."

We cannot refrain from one extract more.

" Of the public virtues of Lord ABERCROMBY, I have given a pretty full detail, because those speak loudest in example, and are most generally useful to mankind. Of his private virtues and accomplishments I might speak in this society on the testimonies of many of its members, who will long remember the excellence of his disposition, the worth and honour of his heart, the amiable and engaging manners which he exhibited. From birth, from education, from native sentiment, and improved society, he cultivated, and never was a moment unimpressed with, the feelings of a *gentleman*, with that delicacy of mind, 'above the fixed and settled rules,' which polishes the manners,
which

which refines morality, and which dignifies virtue; of which such an example is the more valuable in these days, when I am afraid a style of life and manners has become in some degree fashionable, which destroys this honourable distinction; which degrades the higher ranks by vices and follies that used to be a reproach to the least worthy among the lower; in which name and station sanctify grossness in pleasure and coarseness in demeanour, and wealth shoots out into caprice and absurdity, instead of expanding into generosity and usefulness."

Lord Abercromby's last piece of duty was the northern circuit, in the spring of the year 1795. On that journey he felt himself a good deal indisposed; and at Exmouth, where he went to try the effects of the mild Devonshire climate, he died on the 17th of November following.

II. *A Short Account of the Life and Writings of William Tytler, Esq.* By Henry Mackenzie, Esq.

Mr. Tytler's literary character is well known from his *Enquiry into the Evidence against Mary Queen of Scots*, in which he warmly espoused the cause of that unfortunate Princess, attacked with severity the conduct of her enemies, and exposed the fallacy, in many parts the fabrication, of those proofs on which the charges against her had been founded. This work was published in the year 1759, and was the cause of much controversy among the great historical writers who flourished about that time, Robertson, Hume, Henry, &c. Mr. Mackenzie relates several anecdotes, illustrative of that controversy, which cannot fail to entertain the historical reader. Mr. Tytler finding his adversaries not convinced by what he had already written, wrote a Dissertation on the Marriage of Queen Mary with Bothwell, which was published in the Transactions of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, in the year 1792. In 1783, he published, in an 8vo. volume, the Poetical Remains of James the First, King of Scotland, prefaced with a curious Dissertation on the Life and Writings of that Prince; and afterwards several other pieces.

The reader will find much matter of entertainment in this Life. Mr. Tytler's character is well drawn, and the language is in the usual elegance of Mr. M.

III. *A Biographical Account of Mr. William Hamilton, late Professor of Anatomy and Botany in the University of Glasgow.* By Robert Cleghorn, M. D. Lecturer in Chemistry in the University of Glasgow.

It was Mr. Hamilton's intention to have published a System of Surgery, illustrated with Cases, of which several were fully and accurately drawn up, and found among his papers after his death.

death. From these Dr. Cleghorn has selected some, which he introduces into the biographical account before us. All of them show Mr. Hamilton's great knowledge of anatomy and skill in surgery; and from Dr. Cleghorn's character of him, he must have been a worthy man, and an able Professor.

IV. *Account of John Roebuck, M.D.* Communicated by Mr. Jardine, Professor of Logic in the University of Glasgow.

From this account, Dr. Roebuck seems to have been what is commonly called a projector. He was bred to the profession of physic, and was settled as a physician at Birmingham.

"He met there with great encouragement, and was soon distinguished in that town and the country adjacent, for his skill, integrity, and charitable compassion, in the discharge of the duties of his profession."

It seems, however, that soon after his residence was fixed there, his studies and attention were directed to other objects than his medical practice. Strongly attached to the science of chemistry, he conceived high views of extending its usefulness, and of rendering it subservient to the improvement of arts and manufactures; he consequently made several attempts to put these plans in execution, some of which proved advantageous; but no sooner had a scheme succeeded, than Dr. Roebuck neglected it, or left it in the hands of other people who profited by it, and went in pursuit of other schemes. He established a manufacture of oil of vitriol, at Preston-pans in Scotland. This is still carried on with profit, but Dr. Roebuck had long ago withdrawn his capital from it. He then established the great iron work at Carron, and no sooner was that work brought to perfection, than he betook himself to other projects; to enumerate all which, would only be wasting our time. In a word, he impaired very considerably a large fortune, by establishing numerous works in different parts of Scotland, all of which are turned to profit in the hands of their present possessors, and which are of considerable benefit to the country. We lament, with Mr. Jardine, that "the widow of Dr. Roebuck, whose fortune was sunk in these great undertakings, is left without any provision for her immediate or future support."

We have now gone through the first part of this volume, which has afforded us an article of a sufficient length, and we shall reserve our account of the papers for a subsequent Review.

(To be continued.)

ART. II. *Gwillim's Abridgment of the Law,**(Concluded from Page 289.)*

THE primary object with the editor of a law-book, and more especially of an Abridgment (which is, to the practising lawyer, at once a dictionary and an index) is to bring forward all the recent decisions of the courts, so as to give, in one view, the law of the time. If an editor of Bacon's Abridgment had not done this, he would have afforded cause of complaint; but Mr. Gwillim has fulfilled this part of his duty with scrupulous accuracy, and has besides accompanied such additions with a degree of discussion, which is very informing and interesting. Instances of this may be seen in what is said on "The Affidavit to hold to Bail," in vol. i, pp. 326, 327, and in vol. iv, p. 337, in the note upon "*Donations mortis causa*," where the opinions that have lately been given in our courts on these anomalous testamentary gifts, are compared with those of the Roman lawyers. But the additions of this sort made to the Abridgment, are too numerous to be pointed out; the editor seems to have endeavoured, in general, to compress the work, as much as possible, and has therefore interspersed his new matter, in all parts, so as to infuse it into the body of the work rather than give it the appearance of additions; some of these, however, from their length, still appear prominent; as the introductory part to the title "Trover," in vol. vi, p. 677, and what he has said under the title "Tythes," in the same vol. pp. 708, 709, 710, upon the nature of tythes; a subject, which the editor, we know, has pursued with great attention; and, it is thought, he will soon favour the profession with the result of his researches, in some distinct treatise. Among the additions, a very distinguished place is due to those which have been made to the title "Remainder and Reversion." It is known that this title, in the original edition of the work, was only an extract from a manuscript treatise of Lord Chief Baron Gilbert. This manuscript is in the hands of Mr. Hargrave, who, among his other literary donations to the profession of the law, obligingly communicated his manuscript to the editor, and thus enabled him to give an almost entirely new treatise on the head of "Remainder and Reversion." These additions, and indeed all the additions through the whole of the work, are so marked, as to distinguish the parts for which the present editor is answerable.

We

We are obliged to Mr. Gwillim, not only for the additions he has made to the original work, but for the pains he has taken to purge it from the impurities which it had contracted, from the negligence, depraved notions, or ignorance of former editors. A striking instance of this may be seen in the following controversial note, on the title "Prerogative," where he examines and refutes, most satisfactorily, a piece of trite common-place whiggism, that may pass, like other vulgar conceptions, in a political pamphlet, but is a disgrace to a law-book. The former editor had ventured, as a lawyer, to lay down, that the sovereignty resides in King, Lords, and Commons, as it were, jointly, in equal authority; and that the King is not sovereign, but only one of the estates of the realm. Upon which doctrine, Mr. G. makes the following observations:

"This passage, which has been industriously foisted into the work by the last editor, abounds throughout with the most dangerous political errors. It gives a false view of the nature of our government: it represents it as almost a pure republick. From the qualifications which the kingly power is subjected to, the editor would infer the non-existence of the power itself: Because the king acts with *advice* in all cases, and with advice and *consent* in *some* cases, therefore he never acts *proprio jure*. Because the law hath assigned him various counsellours to aid and advise him in the deliberative and executive parts of his government, therefore these counsellours are co-equal and co-ordinate with him.—But let us mark the several parts of this notable passage, and let us see how well they correspond with the authorities we shall hereafter cite, authorities drawn from our records and statute books, and from the writings and speeches of men eminent for their knowledge of the law and constitution of their country, and not suspected of any blind attachment to monarchy. "The king is not the sovereign of the state, but the people's executive magistrate."—"Sovereignty resides where the constitution has placed the legislative power, viz. in king, lords, and commons, in parliament assembled.—So that the king, in his political capacity, as one of the states of the realm, possesses a part, and only a part of the sovereignty; but is not sovereign, any more than a part is equal to the whole."—In the first place this writer seems to suppose, that the sovereign power of a state consists merely in legislation; whereas the power of a state consists equally in enforcing the execution of laws when made, as in the making of them.—"But," saith this writer, "the king is not the sovereign of the state, but the people's executive magistrate;"—if then the king is not the sovereign of the state, but the people's executive magistrate, the people are the sovereign of the state, for the king is *their* magistrate: but according to this writer, the sovereignty is not lodged in the people only, but in king, lords, and commons; then, upon this writer's own hypothesis, the people cannot be sovereign, for, to use his own words, *a part cannot be equal to the whole*; but if they are not sovereign, how can the king be the *people's* executive magistrate! whence is their authority to commission this officer!—But so far from the king not being the sovereign

sovereign of the state, it will appear from the following authorities, that the whole power of the state, both legislative and executive, subject to certain limitations and qualifications, is vested in the king alone; that he, with the advice and consent of his great council, makes laws; and, with the advice of other councils, executes those laws when made: that he is not one of the estates of the realm, as this writer supposeth him to be, but paramount those estates. Lord Coke saith, in his 4th Inst. pa. 3. that the king is *caput, principium et finis* of his court of parliament. In 22 E. 3. Hil. term, plea 25. it is laid down thus: *Et fuit dit, que le roy fait les leis par assent des peres et de la commune, et non pas les peres et la commune.*

"According to Lord Hale, "Although that the English monarchy is not in all respects absolute and unlimited, but hath certain qualifications of monarchical power, especially in point of making laws, and imposing taxes upon the people; yet, certainly, since the denomination of government is *ad plurimum*, the government is monarchical, and not aristocratical or democratical. And hence it is, that all jurisdiction in this realm, whether ecclesiastical or civil, is derived from the crown; and that the exercise thereof in the ministers or judges, to whom it is so delegated by the crown, is in right of the crown, and by virtue of a delegation from it." *Id.* 190. And in a preceding part of this tract, Lord Hale, speaking of the deliberative and executive parts of civil government, says, "In both which, though the king under God be supreme governor and fountain; yet it is necessary for him to call in others *in partem sollicitudinis*, and, as to use their assistance in the executive part, so to have their advice and council in the deliberative part of his government." Hale's Jurisd. of the Lords' House, pa. 4. Again, Whitelock in his comment on the parliamentary writ, says, "The making of statutes is by the king with the assent of the lords and commons in parliament." Vol. i. 406. And farther, the style of our acts of parliament is, "*Be it enacted by the King's most excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords spiritual and temporal, and Commons in parliament assembled.*" Even in money bills, when the commons have granted the king their money, they pray that he will be graciously pleased to make it a law. "We your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Great Britain in parliament assembled, having, &c. &c. Do beseech your Majesty that it may be enacted, and be it enacted by the King's most excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent, &c. &c."

"With respect to the king's not being one of the estates of the realm, read the words of Lord Hale in another part of the tract above referred to. The nobility, clergy, and commonalty are the three estates of the kingdom. The king comes in upon a higher denomination and title, namely, the head of these three estates. And therefore they that have gone about to make the king one of the three estates, are mistaken, as will easily appear to any that will but read the records fully, being, viz. *Rot. Parl.* 9 H. 5. n. 15. the conclusion of the peace between the kings of England and France by the king's command in parliament, 2 May, 9 H. 5. read *coram tribus statibus regni, viz. praelatis et clero, nobilibus et magnatibus, et communitate regni Anglie*, and by them assented to. *Rot. Parl.* 3 E. 4. n. 23. *le roy*

et les trois estates. Rot. Parl. 13 E. 4. n. 16 & 17. *dominus rex et tribus statibus regni stantibus in eodem parlamento.* And in the first parliament of the usurper R. 3. who would be sure to want no formality to countenance his usurpation, Rot. Parl. 1. *titulus Regius*, there is recited an instrument allowing him to be king before his coronation was declared in the name of the three estates of this realm of England, viz. the lords spiritual and temporal, and commons, "Bee it ordained," that "the tenour of the said rolle, with all the contynue of the same, presented as is above said, and delivered to our before said souverain lord the king, in the name and on the behalf of the sayd three estates out of parliament, now by the same three estates assembled in this present parlement, and by auctorite of the same, bee ratyfyed, enroled, recorded," &c. This, though done in a time of usurpation, yet sufficiently evidenceth what the three estates were. And the objections against it, 1. that two of those estates are constituents of the lords' house, and so must outbalance the commons, which are but one of the three estates; and, 2. that the lords spiritual by this means should have a negative voice upon the lords temporal and commons, and so no law could be made without the consent of the major part of the spiritual lords and the major part of the temporal lords, as well as the most part of the commonalty: I say these objections are vain. For though it be true, that two of the three estates are constituents of the lords' house, yet they constitute but one house. And the laws and customs of the kingdom, which are the true measure of all bounds of power, have given a negative voice of either house upon the other, and of the king upon both; but have not given a negative voice of only one of the two estates constituting the lords' house unto the other, or to the commons being the third estate; *the legislative power being lodged in the king with the assent of the two houses of parliament as such, and not with the assent of the three estates simply considered as such; for it is the settled constitution and custom of the kingdom, that fixeth and determineth where the legislative power is lodged, not notions and fancies.*" Hale's Jurisdict. of the Lords' House, &c. pa. 10, 11. And Lord Coke, before him, had begun his chapter on the High Court of Parliament in these words: "This court consisteth of the King's Majesty, sitting there, as in his royal political capacity, and of *the three estates of the realm*, viz." &c. 4th Inst. cap. 1. And after him, at the memorable era of the Revolution, in the preamble to the Bill of Rights, the Convention Parliament use these words: "Whereas the lords spiritual and temporal, and commons, assembled at Westminster, lawfully, fully, and freely representing *all the estates of the people of this realm*, did, upon, &c. present unto their Majesties, &c. Stat. 1 W. and M. Sess. 2. c. 2." Vol. v, p. 487.

After which phalanx of authorities, he adduces one from the present Attorney-General's address to the jury in Hardy's case; where he says,

"The power of the state, by which I mean the power of making laws, and enforcing the execution of them, when made, is vested in the King; enacting laws in the one case, that is in his legislative capacity, by, and with the advice, and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal,

Temporal, and of the Commons in Parliament assembled, according to the law and constitutional custom of England: in the other case, executing the laws, when made, in subserviency to the laws so made, and with the advice which the law and the constitution hath assigned to him, in almost every instance, in which it has called upon him to act for the benefit of the subject."

A declaration so plain and explicit as this is, and delivered on so solemn an occasion, without being contradicted or questioned, must be taken to be the best, and the most commonly received notion of the sovereign power, among lawyers and well-informed men. We are ready to express our entire approbation of it; and we are glad to see, in these times, when men are called upon to defend our constitution, and therefore ought to know the frame and structure of it, in order to choose their ground of argument, that Mr. G. has brought together so much sound matter upon this important piece of constitutional knowledge, in a work that must come into the hands of every student of the law.

ART. III. *Observations on the Claims of the Moderns, to some Discoveries in Chemistry and Physiology.* By G. D. Yeates, M. B. &c. 8vo. 403 pp. 7s. 6d. Sold by J. Debrett. 1798.

ONE of the most philosophical productions of the last century, is a work of Dr. John Mayow, entitled *Traclatus quinque Medico-Physici, quorum primus agit de Sal-Nitro, et Spiritu nitro-aereo; Secundus de Respiratione; Tertius de Respiratione Foetus in utero et ovo; Quartus de Motu Musculari, et Spiritibus Animalibus; Ultimus de Rheumatide.* Oxonii 1674.

The experiments, the reasoning, and the discoveries which are contained in this publication, place Dr. Mayow above the level of his cotemporary writers, by showing, that he was ready in contriving, dexterous in performing experiments, and sagacious in his views. His work is remarkable, principally for containing a great part of the modern theory concerning respiration, the constitution of the atmosphere, &c.

Though the most remarkable contents of Dr. Mayow's book have been noticed by various modern writers, yet Mr. Yeates thinks that the Doctor has not met with the justice which is due to his merit; and it seems, that the work at present under our consideration, has been written principally for the purpose of rendering him that justice, by manifesting to the scientific world,

world, the full value of his experiments, of his discoveries, and of his reasoning.

Mr. Y. divides his work into two parts; the first of which contains an introduction, and 14 sections; I. Of the Fire-air Particles of Mayow. II. Of Salino-sulphureous Particles. III. Of Acids. IV. Of the Analogy between Respiration and Combustion. V. Of the different Gasses Mayow met with in his Experiments. VI. Of Respiration. VII. Opinions of Authors cotemporary with Mayow, concerning Respiration. VIII. Mayow's Theory of Respiration, adopted by Wolferstan and Verheyen. IX. Mayow's Application of Fire-air to Vegetation. X. Of Muscular Motion. XI. Of the conspiring Action of the intercostal Muscles. XII. Of Digestion and use of the Spleen. XIII. Mayow's Explanation of some Diseases from his Doctrines. XIV. Mayow's Works attended to by various Authors after his Death. With a conclusion to the first part.

The second part contains an introduction, comprising the History of the Absorbent System, and six sections; I. Of Absorption by Red Veins. II. Origin of Lacteals and Lymphatics. III. Origin of Lacteals. IV. Structure of Lacteals and Lymphatics. V. Identity of Lacteals and Lymphatics. VI. Functions of the Absorbent System: and an appendix, which consists of six letters, relative to the subject of the work.

Three copper-plate engravings are likewise contained in this book; namely, Dr. Mayow's portrait, and two of the Doctor's plates, which have all been copied from the above-mentioned Latin work. Dr. Mayow is the hero of the first part of the work. In every section his ample share of merit is ably stated; large quotations from his works are introduced in their original language, the Latin. But besides Dr. Mayow's eulogy, almost every section contains a useful account, or history, of the particular subject of that section.

In the second part, which is by much the shorter of the two, the same tenor is preserved, but the merit of having anticipated the moderns, is more equably divided amongst a variety of earlier philosophers. The subjects are, upon the whole, handled with propriety, and decent impartiality; yet, in the hands of an advocate for the ancients in opposition to the moderns, though the opposite scales may appear to be equally laden, the beam is naturally made to preponderate on the side of the former.

Useless declamation, high flown expressions, and strained meanings, are by no means frequent in Mr. Y.'s publication. His style is sufficiently clear, though not quite correct; his observations

servations generally proper; his materials apposite and instructive.

He evidently proves, what indeed has with sufficient reason been suspected by many, that most of the chemical and physiological theories, which have been advanced by modern philosophers, may, in great measure, be traced in the works of earlier authors. In the introduction, he observes,

“ That it is certainly, *prima facie*, a matter of astonishment, how it happens, that theories and experiments, clearly and fairly explained, should have escaped the observation of medical men, till more recent investigation attracted their attention to the subject. It is difficult to account for the prejudice of the human mind, with its consequent rooted attachment to established systems; but there certainly is evident in the popular mind, a proneness, at particular periods, to the reception of certain systems, in like manner as there exists in the body, a predisposition to disease, at different times.”

It should, however, on the other side be observed, that when once a discovery has been fully made and ascertained, the previous hints or approximations are fitted to it with wonderful facility; yet those approximations were not of themselves sufficient to manifest the fact. Like prophecies, which, after the accomplishment of an event, but not before, are found to have foretold it with admirable accuracy and precision. Should any person wonder at the cause of this easy application *post factum*, a short inquiry into the various meanings of words and sentences, together with the almost necessary connection which a few, out of a vast number of random expressions, must have with any particular fact, will probably satisfy his curiosity.

It is not our intention to deprive Dr. Mayow of all the merit which Mr. Y. attributes to him; nor do we mean to deny his having approached very near to the modern theory concerning the constitution of atmospheric air, respiration, &c. by means of many well-imagined experiments and real discoveries. But his works undoubtedly contain also a considerable proportion of the chimerical notions of his times, as may be seen in almost every part of the book, and especially in the 6th, 11th, 12th, and 13th chapters of his first tract; which, before the modern discoveries, rendered it impossible to discriminate between the useful and the useless parts of his tracts. Hence those tracts were not examined with that attention, which they have lately been found to deserve. It is indeed true, that where the assertions were supported by experiments, the natural deductions ought to have been received without hesitation; but experiments are seldom repeated, and always doubted, whenever they do not agree with the common opinion or theory.

Having

Having made those general observations on Mr. Yeates's publication, we shall not enter into any particular disquisition on the comparative merits of the ancient and the modern philosophers. In cases of this sort, it is impossible to award, as Mr. Y. expresses it, the *suum cuique*, without a full investigation of all the concurring circumstances; and such an investigation is incompatible with the nature of our publication. Referring therefore the reader to the work itself, where he may, in great measure, be enabled to judge for himself, we shall conclude with the following just observation respecting the nature of discoveries in general.

"We have seen," says Mr. Yeates, "how extensively diffused Mayow's doctrine was, although greatly misunderstood by some physiologists. We are, therefore, not surprised to find his expressions adopted, without knowing to whom they belonged, and his doctrine affecting the arguments of the physiologist, to the discoveries of Priestley and others. Certain it is, that almost immediately after the time of this most ingenious physician, we find, in a variety of authors, the reasoning of the chemico-physiologist more clear, distinct, and consistent with truth; but occasionally, as is natural, we discover deviations from the spirit and meaning of the original discoverer. There is a tide in discoveries, which, like a stream, flows neglected and unperceived from its source, and occasionally is increased or diminished, in proportion as it is confined, or receives its tributary waters, till at last it bursts into a broad and extensive plain: it then arrests the attention, and obliges us, by its magnitude, to reflect on its source." P. 265.

ART. IV. *Hogarth illustrated from his own Manuscripts. By John Ireland. Volume the Third and Last.* 11. 16s. in Boards. Printed (at Bulmer's Press) for the Editor, No. 3, Poet's Corner, Palace-Yard; Mr. Nicoll, Pall-Mall; and Messrs. Boydell, Shakespeare Gallery, and Cheap-side. 1798.

EVERY age seems to have a favourite pursuit, which serves to amuse the idle, and relieve the attention of the industrious. The taste of the present day is prints; and though it may in some instances have been carried to excess, yet while that taste remains, and men wish to contemplate figures drawn from Nature, by the pencil of genius, and placed in such points of view as generally to convey lessons of virtue in a language that all nations may read, Hogarth must hold a very high rank. He has been called a caricature painter, but very improperly; for the productions of a caricaturist, though they may excite a momentary smile, fade with the objects they are intended

intended to ridicule. The figures of Hogarth neither divert by distortion, nor surprise by aggravation; are neither disguised by ornament, nor weakened by decoration: they are clear representations of clear opinions, calculated to produce conviction by their truth, rather than dazzle the eye with high finishing and false glare. They express *the mind's construction in the face*, with a precision and fidelity which we believe was never equalled; for, though he has had many imitators, they have been followers rather than rivals, and the laurel with which he was originally crowned, still flourishes with undiminished verdure.

Mr. Ireland infers, and we think fairly, that the public will be curious to see how the man who thus wrote with his pencil, would express himself with his pen; and having obtained, from the executrix of his widow, a number of manuscripts (which, had he lived a little longer, Hogarth himself intended to have published) has arranged and printed them as a supplement to his two former volumes.

The second edition of those two volumes we have noticed (see *British Critic*, vol. iii, p. 439) with approbation. The voice of the public coincided with our praise; for the whole of the first impression was bought up in a few weeks, and, as we are informed, the second edition is also nearly sold.

In our critique on these, we remarked that the description of the prints was sometimes too long, and sometimes interspersed with anecdotes, which, though generally entertaining, did not precisely appertain to the delineation. In the Supplement, this fault is avoided; but as many of the mottos which were inserted at the head of each description were well imagined, we wish that Mr. Ireland had indulged us with a continuation of them in this third volume. We hope his poetic fire is not extinguished, since he has taken up his abode in Poets' Corner.

This volume must, however, be considered as principally the work of Hogarth;—and, as it contains a narrative of the course of his early studies, life, and opinions of the progress of the arts, and institution of a Royal Academy, his quarrel with Wilkes and Churchill, &c. must be admitted to be curious and interesting. In paper, type, printing, and number of pages, it tallies with the two which were published some years ago, and (since it is announced as *the last*) we can fairly recommend it as a proper conclusion, to what may be classed altogether as a very valuable work.

As the editor seems justly solicitous that the public should have a clear and explicit account of the channel through
C c which

which these papers proceed, we have extracted an advertisement pasted on the marginal leaf, and the principal part of his introductory chapter.

"It may be proper to state, that neither the two volumes, published in 1791, nor *this Supplement**, have any connection with the *Graphic Illustrations*, which being written by Mr. Samuel Ireland, proprietor of the *Shakespeare papers*, have given rise to many strange mistakes, and been erroneously ascribed to *John Ireland*†."

"ADVERTISEMENT.

"The manuscripts from which the principal part of this volume are compiled, were written by the late Mr. Hogarth: had he lived a little longer, he would have methodized and published them. On his decease they devolved to his widow, who kept them sacred and entire until her death; when they became the property of her relation and executrix, Mrs. Lewis, of Chiswick, by whose kindness and friendship they are now in my possession.

"This is the fair and honest pedigree of the papers, which may be thus divided:

"1. Hogarth's life, comprehending his course of study, correspondence, political quarrels, &c.

"2. A manuscript volume in folio, containing the autographs of the subscribers to his *Election*, and intended print of *Sigismunda*; and letters to and from Lord Grosvenor relative to that picture."

"3. The manuscript of the *Analysis of Beauty*, with the original sketches, and many remarks omitted in the printed copy.

"4. A supplement to the *Analysis*, never published; comprising a succinct history of the arts in his own time, his account of the institution of the Royal Academy, &c.

"5. Sundry memoranda relative to the subject of his satire in several of his prints.

"These manuscripts being written in a careless hand, generally on loose pieces of paper, and not paged, my first endeavour was to find the connection, separate the subjects, and place each in its proper class. Every paper has been attentively examined, and is, to the best of my judgment, arranged as the author intended. I have incorporated Hogarth's account of the Arts, Academy, &c. with his narrative of his own life, and to keep distinct the various subjects on which he treats, divided the whole into chapters.

"*** His correspondence is regulated by the dates of the letters, and the engraved copies from sketches in the manuscript *Analysis* are

"* The MSS. &c. from which it is compiled, were obtained from Mrs. Lewis of Chiswick, a relation and executrix to the late Mrs. Hogarth; and the editor will have great pleasure in submitting them to any gentleman's inspection, at No. 3, Poets' Corner, Palace-Yard, Westminster."

† We may add, that, though the name is the same, there is, we understand, no kind of connection or relationship between the persons, *Rev.*

placed

placed in the chapter which contains Hogarth's account of that publication."

As some of the reduced copies in the two preceding volumes were thought too small, these are engraved on a larger scale.

In his Introduction the editor endeavours, and we think successfully, to refute several opinions of other writers on Hogarth's deficiencies as a painter, engraver, &c. and this part is closed by a fac-simile of what Hogarth whimsically enough calls, *The No-Dedication*, written for a History of the Arts, &c. which he intended publishing as a Supplement to the Analysis of Beauty.

"Not dedicated to any Prince in Christendom for fear it might be thought an idle piece of arrogance.

"Not dedicated to any man of quality for fear it might be thought too assuming.

"Not dedicated to any learned body of men, as either of the Universities or the Royal Society, for fear it might be thought an uncommon piece of vanity.

"Nor dedicated to any one particular friend, for fear of offending another.

"Therefore dedicated to nobody,—but if for once we may suppose Nobody to be every body, as every body is often said to be Nobody,—then is this work dedicated to every body, by their most humble and devoted,
W. Hogarth."

This is followed by Hogarth's own narrative of his birth, apprenticeship to a silver-plate engraver, motives for commencing painter, &c. &c. His language is generally plain and perspicuous, without adventitious ornament. He evidently writes from his feelings, and sometimes works himself into a warm resentment of offences, which probably had not been intended.

In the next chapter we find the artist engaged in painting small conversation pieces, &c. &c. He thus opens the account of his situation.

"I then married* and commenced painter of small conversation pieces, from 12 to 15 inches high. This having novelty, succeeded for a few years. But though it gave somewhat more scope to the fancy, was still but a less kind of drudgery; and as I could not bring myself to act like some of my brethren, and make it a sort of manufactory, to be carried on by the help of back-ground and drapery painters, it was not sufficiently profitable to pay the expences my family required. I therefore turned my thoughts to a still more

* "I find by the parish register, that Hogarth was married at Paddington, on the 23d of March, 1729." This, however, might be 1730, N. S. as the public date would not then change till after the 25th. *Rev.*

novel mode, viz. painting and engraving modern moral subjects, a field not broken up in any country or any age.

"The reasons which induced me to adopt this mode of designing were, that I thought both writers and painters had in the historical stile totally overlooked that intermediate species of subject, which may be placed between the sublime and grotesque; I therefore wished to compose pictures on canvas similar to representations on the stage; and farther hope that they will be tried by the same test, and criticized by the same criterion. Let it be observed, that I mean to speak of those scenes only where the human species are actors, and these I think have not often been delivered in a way of which they are worthy and capable." P. 26.

"In pursuing my studies, I made all possible use of the technical memory which I have before described, by observing, and endeavouring to retain in my mind lineally such subjects as best suited my purpose; so that be where I would, while my eyes were open, I was at my studies and acquiring something useful to my profession. By this means, whatever I saw, whether a remarkable incident, or a trifling subject, became more truly a picture than one that was drawn by a *camera obscura*. And thus the most striking objects, whether of beauty or deformity, were by habit the most easily impressed and retained in my imagination. A redundancy of matter being by this means acquired, it is natural to suppose I introduced it in my works on every occasion that I could.

"By this idle way of proceeding, I grew so profane, as to admire *nature* beyond the first productions of *art*, and acknowledge that I saw or fancied delicacies in the life, so far surpassing the utmost efforts of imagination, that when I drew the comparison in my mind, I could not help uttering blasphemous expressions against the *divinity* even of Raphael, Corregio, and Michael Angelo. For this, though my brethren have most unmercifully abused me, I hope to be forgiven. I confess to have frequently said, that I thought the stile of painting which I had adopted, admitting that my powers were not equal to doing it justice, might one time or other come into better hands, and be made more entertaining and more useful than the eternal blazonry and tedious repetition of hackneyed beaten subjects, either from scripture, or the old ridiculous stories of heathen gods; as neither the religion of one or the other requires promoting among Protestants, as it formerly did in Greece, and at a latter period in Rome.

"For these and other heretical opinions I was deemed vain, and accused of enviously attempting what I was unable to execute. The chief things that have brought obloquy on me are,—1st. attempting portrait painting; 2dly. writing the *Analysis of Beauty*; 3dly. painting the picture of *Sigismunda*; and, 4thly. publishing the first print of *The Times*.

"In the ensuing pages it shall be my endeavour to vindicate myself from these aspersions; and each of the subjects, taken in the order they occurred, shall be occasionally interspersed with some thoughts by the way, on the state of the arts, institution of a Royal Academy, Society of Arts, &c. as being remotely, if not immediately connected with my own pursuits." P. 31.

Hogarth's opinion of the portrait painters of his own day has a whimsical turn, and shows that the artist (whatever might be the judgment of others) had a pretty high opinion of his own relative talents, and wore his robe with an air of dignity.

“ With respect to portrait painting, whatever talents a professor may have, if he is not in vogue, and cannot afford to hire a *drapery-man*, he will not do; but if he be in vogue and can employ a journeyman, and place a layman in the garret of his manufactory, his fortune is made; and, as his two coadjutors are kept in the back ground, his own fame is established.

“ If a painter comes from abroad, his being an *exotic* will be much in his favour: and if he has address enough to persuade the public that he has brought a new discovered mode of colouring, and paints his faces all red, all blue, or all purple, he has nothing to do but to hire one of these *painter tailors* as an assistant, for without him the manufactory cannot go on, and my life for his success.

“ Vanloo*, a French portrait painter, being told that the English were to be cajoled by any one who had a sufficient portion of assurance, came to this country, set his trumpeters to work, and by the assistance of puffing monopolized all the people of fashion in the kingdom. Down went at once *, *, *, *, *, &c. &c. painters who before his arrival were highly fashionable and eminent: but by this foreign interloper were driven into the greatest distress and poverty.

“ By this inundation of folly and fuss, I confess I was much disgusted, and determined to try if by any means I could stem the torrent; and by opposing end it. I laughed at the pretension of these quacks in colouring, ridiculed their productions as feeble and contemptible, and asserted it required neither taste nor talents to excel their most popular performances. This interference excited much enmity, because, as my opponents told me, my studies were in another way. *You talk*, added they, with ineffable contempt of portrait painting; if it is so easy a task, why do not you convince the world by painting a portrait yourself? Provoked at this language, I one day at the academy in *St. Martin's Lane*, put the following question:—Supposing any man at this time were to paint a portrait as well as Vandyke, would it be seen or acknowledged, and could the artist enjoy the benefit, or acquire the reputation due to his performance.

“ They asked me in reply, if I could paint one as well? and I frankly answered, *I believed I could not*. My query as to the credit I should obtain if I did, was replied to by Mr. Ramsay, and confirmed by the President and about twenty members present, *Our opinions must be consulted, and we will never allow it*. Piqued at this cavalier treat-

* Vanloo came to England, with his son, in the year 1737. *Walpole*.

† Sir Francis Bacon somewhere remarks, that in the flight of *Fame*, she will make but slow progress without some feathers of *Offensation*.

ment, I resolved to try my own powers, and if I did what I attempted, determined to affirm that *I had* done it. In this decided manner I had a habit of speaking, and if I only did myself justice, to have adopted half words would have been affectation. Vanity, as I understand it, consists in affirming you have done that which you have not done,—not in frankly asserting what you are convinced is truth." P. 43.

We are sorry that we cannot at present allow ourselves to make any more considerable extracts; but an epigram by Hogarth is a literary curiosity. The editor, having given the artist's account of a waving line which he introduced on one of his prints, thus continues:

"This *crooked line* drew upon him a numerous band of opponents, and involved him in so many dispute, that he at length determined to write a book, explain his system, and silence his adversaries. When his intentions were known, those who acknowledged his claim to superiority as an artist were apprehensive, that by thus wandering out of his sphere, and commencing author, he would lessen his reputation; those who ridiculed his system, presumed that he would thus overturn it; and the few who envied and hated the man, rejoiced in sure and certain hope that he would *write* himself into disgrace. All this he laughed at; and in the following lines whimsically enough describes his own feelings.

What!—a book, and by Hogarth!—then twenty to ten,
All he's gain'd by the *pencil*, he'll lose by the *pen*;
Perhaps it may be so,—howe'er, miss or hit,
He will publish,—*here goes—it's double or quit.*"

The foregoing pages will give a sufficient specimen of the style in which this great artist wrote; and we rejoice that his papers, drawings, &c. have fallen into the hands of a man conversant with the subject, and so well disposed to do him honour; though we wonder that with this disposition, Mr. Ireland has omitted what was said by the late Dr. James, that he once heard a sermon preached from Hogarth's prints of Industry and Idleness.

As this work is of a nature peculiarly interesting and entertaining, we shall extend our notice of it to a second article. In the mean time we will not withhold from the compiler our general approbation of his labours; nor have we the smallest doubt that his success will be proportionate to his merits as an editor, and good taste as a writer.

(To be concluded in our next.)

ART. V. *A Treatise on Excise, and Qui Tam Informations, as they relate to summary Proceedings before Justices of the Peace. The Mode of prosecuting and defending such Informations, and the Law Evidence of modern Determinations thereon. Together with some approved and useful Precedents and Summonses, Informations, Convictions, Warrants, and Notices; and also an Index to all the Excise Acts of Parliament. This Treatise will be found useful to Justices of the Peace, Gentlemen of the Profession, and Tradesmen subject to the Excise Laws. By Robert Kyrle Hutcheson, Esq. Barrister, Bristol. 8vo. 4s. Bulgin. 1797.*

IT is the advice of Horace to poetic writers, that the introductory lines of their poems should not promise too much. Unluckily he has left no rule which applies *in terminis* to the composition of a title-page. Lawyers are, of all men, the most observant of precedents and usage; and if we had met with a single previous instance, in which a barrister had advertised the general utility of his own work in the title-page, we should have felt ourselves bound by authority, however inclined we might be to consider it as a custom, more to be honoured in the breach than in the observance. But as the present is the first instance of the kind, at least so far as is within our knowledge, we beg leave, for the dignity of the profession, to protest against the practice. We cannot but deprecate a fashion, which places the learned lucubrations of a grave science upon a level with that of *Advice to the Youth of both Sexes*, by Dr. Fogoni, or the *Guide to Old Age*, by Dr. Brodum. There is nothing which prepossesses so much in a stranger's favour, as graceful modesty; and perhaps somewhat of the severity with which we feel inclined to treat the work before us, is to be attributed to the bold front with which it thrusts itself forward upon the public notice. We admit that the plan is sufficiently comprehensive and methodical, but the execution is extremely incorrect. This, lest the author should arraign us of injustice, we shall prove by a few specimens. The very definition of an informer, given by Mr. H. p. 32, is erroneous. "An informer," says he, "is a person who informs against, or prosecutes in any of the King's Courts, those who offend against the law, or any penal statute." This description is defective; 1st, because "a person who *informs* against another," in one sense of that word, signifies a person who gives the first information of a crime, and who, in the proceeding instituted thereupon, becomes a witness, and cannot be the informer,

former, in the technical sense here meant, who, being party to the suit, cannot be a witness to support it : 2dly, because the person who *prosecutes*, is understood always of the person who prefers an *indictment*, where it is the grand jury, and not an informer, that institutes the charge. An information might be defined a criminal prosecution for a misdemeanor, at the suit of some single person ; and that single person is the informer. In this manner the proceeding by *information* would stand distinguished from that by *indictment*, and the character of informer from that of prosecutor. The expression of "*The King's Courts*," might seem also to exclude informations before magistrates, which are the very subject of the Treatise ; for although magistrates, on such occasions, act judicially, yet the term King's Court is commonly confined to the more solemn tribunals, either at Westminster, the Assises, or Sessions.

In page 73, the author says, " no secondary or inferior evidence can or ought to be received when better is to be had, and it be shown that such primary evidence is unattainable." Of this passage, as it stands, it is utterly impossible to make sense ; and we have tried, in vain, to suppose an error of the press, which might be removed by conjectural emendation. The rule of law is, *that you must give the best evidence of which the nature of the thing is capable* ; so that, if the evidence produced shows that better may remain behind (as, for instance, the copy of an instrument which presupposes the existence of an original) it cannot be read unless it be proved that the better (i. e. in the instance put, the original) could not be procured. But such a meaning cannot be extracted from Mr. H.'s proposition. As it stands, it is repugnant and contradictory ; for, it says, " you cannot receive secondary evidence when primary is *to be had*, and the primary is *unattainable*," i. e. *is not to be had*. " Nei her would it alter the meaning if we were to substitute *unless* for *and*." The same contradiction, that the best evidence is to be had, and is not to be had, would still remain. This error is the more unpardonable, as the proposition is laid down very clearly in the law of Nisi prius, to which Mr. H. refers ; and he has fallen into the error, from an incautious deviation from the words of his authority.

In the ensuing page it is said, " no *presumptive* evidence can or ought to be allowed." We had not conceived that Mr. H. had so far forgotten his Coke Littleton. He will find in that book, f. 6, b. "*Violenta presumptio* is many times *plena probatio*. As if one be run through the
body

body with a sword in a house, whereof he instantly dieth, and a man is seen to come out of that house with a bloody sword, and no other man was at that time in the house." Upon the whole, we cannot think that "*this treatise will be found useful to Justices of the Peace,*" unless they set the dangers of a motion for a criminal information in the Court of King's Bench at defiance; or for "*tradersmen subject to the excise laws,*" unless they should wish to appear in his Majesty's Court of Exchequer. There must always be a good and a bad side to every cause, and lawyers are liable to be retained upon either. A quotation from a bad book may sometimes avail where truth and law are on the side of an antagonist, because there are well-intentioned men sufficiently simple to believe every thing to be true if they find it in print. In this view, perhaps, "*this treatise will be found useful to some gentlemen of the profession.*"

ART. VI. *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London, &c.*

(Concluded from our last, p. 224.)

WE proceed to give a concise account of the remaining articles in this publication.

V. *Observations on the Foramina Thebesii of the Heart.* By Mr. John Abernethy, F. R. S.

When injections are thrown into the blood vessels of the heart, part of the injected matter escapes into the cavities of that organ, through certain apertures, which are known under the name of Foramina Thebesii. The present short paper is intended to throw some light on the use of those apertures, which has hitherto perplexed the minds of anatomists.

VI. *An Analysis of the earthy Substance from New South Wales, called Sydneia, or Terra Australis.* By Charles Hatchett, Esq. F. R. S.

A strange fatality seems to attend the name of Terra Australis; for whether it be the great south continent supposed by

by some geographers, or the new earth of the mineralogists, its existence has been equally disproved.

A whitish earthy substance, which was imported not many years ago from Sydney Cove, in New South Wales, having been examined by the late Mr. Wedgwood, F. R. S. was by him supposed to be a new genus of earth, and as such it has been received by the late mineralogical writers.

The author of the present paper, not satisfied with the experiments of Mr. Wedgwood, and of some other ingenious persons, endeavoured to make a more accurate analysis of this supposed new earth; and his various experiments were performed on two specimens of it; namely, one which had been recently imported, and another, which was part of the identical piece that had been used by Mr. Wedgwood.

The analysis of the former proved, that 400 grains of it contain, of pure siliceous earth, or silica, . 268,15 grains.

Alumine	77,20
Oxide of iron	26,50
Dark grey particles	7,50
Water and vegetable matter	19,20

398,55

The produce of 100 grains of the latter specimen was,

Silica	75,55 grains.
Alumine	7,20
Oxide of iron	3,20
Graphite, or Plumbago	10,25
Water	2,20

98,40

But the like weight of the last specimen having been treated in a different manner, produced the following articles:

Silica and Mica	77,75 grains.
Alumine	6,50
Oxide of iron	8,00
Plumbago	10,00

97,25

In consequence of those results, Mr. Hatchett justly concludes, that the mineral in question is not a new genus of earth.

VII. *Abstract of a Register of the Barometer, Thermometer, and Rain, at Lyndon, in Rutland, for the Year 1796.* By Thomas Barker, Esq.

This register, which occupies one page only, shows the greatest, the least, and the mean height, both of the barometer and of the thermometer, for every month of the year 1796. It likewise contains the quantity of rain which fell in the course of each month, the sum total of which, at the end of the year, amounted to 22,082 inches.

This abstract is followed by a short account of the general state of the weather, its influence on the productions of the earth, &c. and the peculiar quality of the seasons.

VIII. *An Account of some Endeavours to ascertain a Standard of Weight and Measure.* By Sir George Shuckburgh Evelyn, Bart. F. R. S. and A. S.

The theoretical part of the much agitated subject of invariable standards for weights and measures, is by no means improved by Sir G. Sh. yet this paper must be considered as one of the most valuable articles of the *Philosophical Transactions*; and the philosopher, the statesman, and the mechanic, may often derive considerable information and assistance from its contents.

In the determination of steady and unequivocal standards, two objects must be kept in view. In the first place, it is necessary to find out an invariable extension; such as may be easily communicated by means of words, or that may be within the reach of mankind at any distance of place and time; and, secondly, it is necessary to apply this extension to the measurement of bodies, so that a body of a certain substance, as gold, or water, and of certain dimensions, may be assumed as a standard of weight.

The best mechanical method of accomplishing the first requisite was contrived and executed by the late ingenious Mr. Whitehurst, F. R. S. and was by himself published in a pamphlet, in the year 1787. The mechanism consists of a pendulum, whose length may be varied at pleasure, and which is kept vibrating by a piece of clock-work. The standard measure then is nothing more than the difference of the lengths of two pendulums, which vibrate in different, but ascertained times.

Sir

Sir G. Sh. having obtained the use of the above-mentioned machine from its present possessor, and having ascertained that the difference between the pendulum which vibrates 49 times, and that which vibrates 84 times in a minute, is equal to 59,89358 English inches, he made use of that extension for the determination of a standard of weight. For the accomplishment of this object, he provided himself with several necessary articles, the principal of which are the following :

An excellent beam compass, or divided scale, furnished with microscopes and micrometers, for the most exact observations of longitudinal measure.

A very nice beam, or hydrostatic balance, whose equilibrium, when loaded with six pounds, was disturbed by the hundredth part of a grain.

A solid cube of brass, whose sides measured five inches ; and,

A cylinder also of brass, four inches in diameter, and six inches long.

The particular description of those articles, which is illustrated by three plates, and of the judicious methods which were taken for ascertaining their exactness, forms a considerable part of the paper ; after which, Sir G. describes the experiments which he made with them, the calculations, and the practical deductions.

In the choice of a substance which might serve for a standard of weight, he was justly induced to prefer distilled water to any other.

“ From the opinion,” says he, “ of different skilful persons, with whom I have conferred, as well as from the result of my own considerations, I am inclined to believe there is hardly any body in nature, with which we are familiarly acquainted, that is of so simple and homogeneous a quality as pure distilled water, or so fit for the purposes of this inquiry ; and I have concluded, that if the weight of any quantity of water, whose bulk had been previously measured by the above-mentioned scale, could be obtained, under a known pressure and temperature of the atmosphere, we should be in possession of a general standard of weight.”

In order to obtain this object, Sir George weighed the above-mentioned brass cube, both in air and in distilled water ; from whence he obtained the weight of a quantity of water, equal in bulk to the brass cube ; it being well known that the difference between the weight of a body when weighed in air, and when weighed in water, is exactly the weight of a quantity of water equal to the bulk of the body.

The same operation was performed with the brass cylinder ; and by comparing the results of those, and other experiments, which

which were a check to each other, he was enabled to determine the weight of a certain quantity of pure water, to a very great degree of accuracy.

In performing those experiments, a proper, and even a scrupulous attention was paid to every circumstance that might, in any way, influence the effect; the gravity of the atmosphere; its temperature; the pressure of water on bodies at different depths, &c. were all taken into the account.

The following two paragraphs contain the short result of this investigation; but it is such a result as could not be obtained without a considerable share of knowledge, of expence, and of practical nicety.

“ In conclusion, it appears then that the difference of the length of two pendulums, such as Mr. Whitehurst used, vibrating 42 and 84 times in a minute of mean time, in the latitude of London, at 113 feet above the level of the sea; in the temperature of 60°, and the barometer at 30 inches, is = 59,89358 inches of the parliamentary standard; from whence all the measures of superficies and capacity are deducible.

“ That, agreeably to the same scale of inches, a cubic inch of pure distilled water, when the barometer is 29,74 inches, and thermometer at 66°, weighs 252,422 parliamentary grains; from whence all the other weights may be derived.”

This paper contains likewise a curious table concerning a subject, in some measure, allied to that of weights and measures. It is entitled,

“ A Table exhibiting the Prices of various Necessaries of Life, together with that of Day Labour, in sterling Money, and also in Decimals, at different Periods, from the Conquest to the present Time, derived from respectable Authorities; with the Depreciation of the Value of Money inferred therefrom. To which is added, the mean Appreciation of Money, according to a Series of Intervals of 50 Years, for the first 600 Years; and during the present Century, at shorter Periods, deduced by Interpolation.”

In the Appendix to the paper, Sir G. gives the comparison between his scale, which was divided by Mr. Troughton, and various other scales that are preserved as standards in public offices, and other repositories. This nice examination he collects in a table, from which we shall transcribe the following part.

36 inches, on a mean, of Hen. VII, standard of 1490,	Inches on Troughton's.
are equal to	35.924
— of standard yard of Eliz. of 1588	36.015
— of standard ell of ditto, of 1588	36.016
	of

	of yard-bed of Guildhall, about 1660	-	^{Inches as Troughton's} 36,032
	of ell-bed of ditto, about 1660	-	36,014
	of standard of clock-maker's company, 1671	-	35,972
	of the Tower standard, by Mr. Rowley,	-	
about 1720		-	36,004
	of Graham's standard, by Sisson, of 1742	-	36,0013
	of ditto, ditto	-	35,9933
	of General Roy's (Bird's)	{ all made, prob-	
scale		{ ably, be-	
	of Mr. Aubert's do. do.	{ tween the	= 36,00036
	of the Royal Society's	{ years 1745	= 35,99880
ditto, ditto		{ and 1760.	= 35,99955
	of Mr. Bird's parliamentary standard, of		
1758		-	36,00023
	of Mr. Troughton's scale, in 1796	-	36,0000

"From whence it appears, that the mean length of the standard yard, taken from the seven first instances in this table, agrees with the quantity assumed by Mr. Bird, or Mr. Troughton, to within $\frac{1}{10000}$ inch, but that the latter is the longest."

IX. *A new Method of computing the Value of a slowly converging Series, of which all the Terms are Affirmative.* By the Rev. John Hellins, F. R. S. and Vicar of Potter's Pury.

The object of this paper is clearly expressed in the letter to Dr. Maskelyne, which is prefixed to the paper, and in which the author thus expresses himself :

"That several of the most curious and difficult problems in physical astronomy, have hitherto been solved only by means of slowly converging series, is a truth which you are well acquainted with, and which may be seen in the works of the late learned Euler, and others, on that subject. Of this kind of series is the following, viz. $ax + bx^2 + cx^3 + dx^4 + \dots$ *ad infinitum*, when all the terms are affirmative, and a, b, c, d, \dots differ but little from each other, and x is but little less than one ; to obtain the value of which, to seven places of figures, by computing the terms as they stand, and adding them together, is a very laborious and tiresome operation ; and therefore some easier method of obtaining it is very desirable."

The problem then proposed by this author, is to compute, by means of an easy method, the value of an infinite series of the above form, and under the above-mentioned restrictions.

His method consists in converting the given series into two, three, or more series of a quicker converging nature, and summing them up. Thus the proposed series, $ax + bx^2 + cx^3 + dx^4 + ex^5 + \dots$ is evidently equal to the sum of these two, $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} ax - bx^2 + cx^3 - dx^4 + ex^5, \&c. \\ * + 2bx^2 * + 2dx^4 * + \&c. \end{array} \right.$

Now

Now the value of the former of those series is easily obtained by Baron Maseres's method (Phil. Transf. for 1777) but with respect to the latter it must, in the first place, be observed, that it converges as fast again as the original series; and, secondly, that it is of the same form as the original or proposed series; from which it follows, that it may (like the original one) be converted into two other series, one of which may be easily computed, and the other, which besides its property of converging as fast again, is itself convertible into two other series; and so on, to any degree of accuracy that may be required. It is almost needless to add, that the sum of the several secondary series must be equal to the sum of the original series itself.

After the theoretical solution, Mr. H. subjoins an example at length, wherein he describes the practical mode, with all the precautions which may facilitate the operation, as far as the ultimate arithmetical calculation.

The Appendix to the volume contains the "*Meteorological Journal, kept at the Apartments of the Royal Society, by Order of the President and Council.*"

This Journal, which was continued from the first of January, to the 31st of December, 1797, is divided, as usual, into ten columns, under the following titles, viz. Days of the Month; Six's Thermometer, least and greatest Heat; Time; Thermometer without; Thermometer within; Barometer; Hygrometer; Rain; Wind; and Weather.

The last page contains an abstract of the whole Journal, from which we derive the following particulars: 85° is the greatest heat, indicated by the thermometer out of the house, which took place in July the 14th. The least was observed in January 9, 10, 13, and 17, when it amounted to 25° . The greatest height of the barometer (the basin of which is situated 81 feet above the level of low water spring-tides at Somerset-House) is 30.62 inches; which was observed on the 10th of February. The least, viz. 29.04, on the 11th of September. The quantity of rain fallen throughout the year amounts to 22.697 inches.

ART. VII. *An Account of the English Colony in New South Wales: with Remarks on the Dispositions, Customs, Manners, &c. of the native Inhabitants of that Country. To which are added, some Particulars of New Zealand; compiled, by Permission, from the MSS. of Lieutenant Governor King. By David Collins, Esq. late Judge-Advocate and Secretary of the Colony.* 4to. 617 pp. 2l. 2s. Cadell and Davies. 1798.

THE common complaint of historians, that the progress of society in infant states, is involved in impenetrable obscurity, will not, we conceive, present itself to those who, in future times, shall be anxious to record the history of New South Wales. The work before us has detailed, with minuteness, every important transaction of that extraordinary settlement, from its foundation in 1788: and although the form of journal, which the author has adopted, may to some perhaps appear unsuited to the page of history, we think that it has many advantages, for which a more elegant arrangement would not have compensated. We have here a collection of facts, "penned as they occurred*;" and we are thus enabled to correct the speculation of one period, by the experience of another. Better instructions for the future management and improvement of the colony cannot be found, than the journal of a sensible man who is unbiassed by motives of self-interest; and who has resided several years in the settlement, in a situation that afforded him access to the best sources of information.

Mr. Collins's account commences with an Introduction of 37 pages, containing the voyage of Governor Phillip, in 1787; with a sloop of war, a tender, two victuallers, and six transports, on board of which were embarked 756 convicts, and 197 officers and privates†. Then follows a Chronological Journal, comprized in 500 pages, of the transactions of the colony, from their landing in January 1788 to September 1795, when the author embarked in the *Britannia* to return to England. The conclusion of the work contains many interesting particulars (communicated by Lieutenant-Governor King) respecting Norfolk Island; an account of the inhabitants of New Zealand; and a short vocabulary of their language. The Appendix treats of the manners, language, and other peculiarities, of the natives of New South Wales.

* Preface.

† Of this first voyage an account was published before, from the papers of Governor Phillip, and other materials.

From this enumeration of contents, our readers will see that no fair judgment of a work so extremely miscellaneous can be formed from extracts. We shall content ourselves with a few, and shall offer some of the observations which have occurred to us in our perusal of the work.

The chief settlement is at Sydney Cove, in Port Jackson, about 10 miles to the north of Botany Bay. In November, 1788, several convicts were settled on a small river that flows into Port Jackson, at a place called Paramatta*, about 16 miles from Sydney Cove†. Some time after a settlement was formed at Toongabbe, an inland situation, a few miles to the north of Paramatta; and, in January, 1794, several well-disposed convicts and free settlers were placed on the Hawkesbury, a fine navigable river which flows into Broken Bay, about 20 miles to the northward of Port Jackson‡. Though the land immediately round Broken Bay is rocky and barren, yet the great advantage of a navigable river would, probably, have induced Governor Phillip to fix the chief settlement here, had he been aware of the existence of the Hawkesbury river, on his arrival in New South Wales.

The most thriving part of the colony is the little settlement at Norfolk Island, which was formed in February, 1788. When Mr. Collins quitted it in September, 1796, its inhabitants consisted of persons of the following descriptions§.

* Class.	Description.	Numbers.	By whom supported.
1.	Civil and military - - - - -	83	- - government.
2.	Settlers by grant or lease, and freemen who are under-tenants to the settler	104	- - labour.
	Freemen who are hired by the year, &c. or who hire themselves out daily - - - - -	138	- - ditto.
	Convicts who are taken off the stores by officers, &c. - - - - -	5	- - ditto.
3.	Ditto assigned to officers, &c. - - -	67	- - government.
4.	Ditto employed as overseers, artificers, watchmen, &c. for the public benefit, many of whom are invalids - -	106	- - ditto.
	Ditto cultivating ground for the public use, and other incidental work -	30	- - ditto.
Total males - - -		533	

* P. 45. † P. 197. ‡ P. 340. § P. 512.

D d

Class.

Class.	Description.	Numbers.	By whom supplied.
5.	Women belonging to civil and military, and at public labour - -	40 - -	government.
	Ditto who belong to the second class of men - - - - -	125 - -	labour.
6.	Children belonging to the first and fourth classes - - - - -	116 - -	government.
	Ditto to the second and third classes - - - - -	73 - -	labour.
Total females and children		354	

The number of persons in New South Wales at this time amounted to 3959*. Norfolk Island contains about 111,000 acres, of which there are not 200 that might not be cultivated to the greatest advantage. The soil varies from a rich brown mould to a light red earth, without any intermixture of sand. Some parts have borne six successive crops of wheat: 1528 acres had been cleared of timber, and were mostly under cultivation in 1793 and 1794; but in the latter year such a check was given to private industry, that not more than a third of government ground, and a fifth of ground belonging to individuals, was in cultivation in 1795. Of this event Mr. Collins gives the following account in his journal for August, 1794.

"The Francis schooner returned from Norfolk Island, having been absent about eight weeks and three days. Her passage thither was made in ten days, and her return in thirty-eight days, having met with very bad weather.

"From Mr. King we learned that his harvest had been prodigiously productive. He had purchased from the first crops which the settlers had brought to market, upwards of eleven thousand bushels of maize; and bills for the amount were drawn by him in favour of the respective settlers; but, requiring the sanction of the Lieutenant-Governor, they were now sent to Port Jackson. Mr. King had been partly induced to make this provisional kind of purchase, under an idea, that the corn would be acceptable at Port Jackson, and also in compliance with the conditions on which the settlers had received their respective allotments under the regulations of Governor Phillip; that is to say, that their overplus grain should be purchased from them at a fair market price. Being, however, well stocked with that article already, the Lieutenant-Governor did not think himself justifiable in putting the crown to so great an expence (nearly 3000*l.* sterling) and declined accepting the bills.

"Had we been in want of maize, Mr. King could have supplied us with 20,000 bushels of it, much of which must now inevitably perish, unless the settlers would, agreeably to a notification which the Governor intended to send them by the first opportunity, receive their corn again from the public stores.

" Mr. King had the satisfaction to write that every thing went on well in his little island, excepting that some discontent appeared among the marine settlers, and some others, on account of his not purchasing their second crops of corn. As some proof of the existence of this dissatisfaction, one marine settler and three others, arrived in the schooner, who had given up their farms, and entered into the New South Wales corps; and it was reported, that most of the marine settlers intended to follow their example.

" This circumstance naturally gave rise to an enquiry, what would be the consequence if ever government should, from farming on their own account, raise a quantity of wheat and maize sufficient for the consumption of those in the different settlements who were victualled by the crown. If such a system should be adopted, the settler would be deprived of a market for his overplus grain, would find himself cut-off from the means of purchasing any of those comforts which his family must inevitably require, and would certainly quit a country that merely held out to him a daily subsistence; as he would look, if he was ordinarily wise, for something beyond that. It might be said, that the settler would raise stock for the public; but government would do the same, and so prevent him from every chance of providing for a family beyond the present day.

" As it was desirable that those settlers who had become such from convicts should remain in this country, the only inducement they could have, would be that of raising to themselves a comfortable independence for the winter of their own lives, and the summer of their progeny. Government must, therefore, to encourage the settler, let him be the farmer, and be itself the purchaser. The government can always fix its own price; and the settler will be satisfied if he can procure himself the comforts he finds requisite, and lay by a portion of his emoluments for that day when he can no longer till the field with the labour of his own hands. With this encouragement and prospect, New South Wales would hold out a most promising field for the industrious; and might even do more: it might prove a valuable resource and acceptable asylum for many broken and reduced families, who, for want of it, become, through misfortunes, chargeable to their respective parishes." P. 384.

Notwithstanding the salubrity of the climate, and the fertility of the soil, it does not appear to us that the colony has yet overcome a very serious difficulty, which, in our opinion, seems likely to retard its future advancement. Till some staple commodity can be raised for exportation, no convict, whose sentence is expired, can have any very powerful inducement to cultivate the ground; nor will industrious free settlers be tempted to emigrate from Europe to a country, where their industry cannot procure comforts as well as necessaries. The American colonies, in their infancy, did not labour under this disadvantage: tobacco soon became, and still continues to be, an article of such importance, that its cultivation afforded the trans-atlantic farmer a ready exchange for European commodities.

dities. It may likewise be observed, that though the North American Indians were more formidable neighbours than the half-starved natives of New South Wales, the number of navigable rivers much facilitated settlements in America. So difficult was it to explore the interior of New Holland, that it does not appear, from Mr. Collins's account, that any of the colony had penetrated many miles to the westward in the course of eight years. A party, indeed, of *Irish* convicts quitted Port Jackson in 1791, with the absurd idea and resolution of *walking to China* *!

Such being the difficulties that naturally presented themselves to the formation of a settlement in New South Wales, we regret much, that, on its establishment, proper persons, either from Great Britain or the South Seas, did not accompany the expedition, in order to instruct the settlers in the cultivation and manufacture of the New Zealand hemp, which is produced in great abundance in Norfolk Island, and which Captain Cook has long ago pointed out as an article of great importance to the British navy.

The following is an account of the state of the manufactory in 1796.

" Not more than nine men and nine women can be employed in preparing and manufacturing the flax, which barely keeps them in practice. There is only one loom on the island, and the flay or reed is designed for coarse canvas; nor do they possess a single tool required by flax-dressers or weavers, beyond the poor substitutes which they are obliged to fabricate themselves. If there were introduced proper flays or reeds, brushes, and other articles, indispensably necessary for flax-dressing and weaving; with more people to work the flax and a greater number of weavers, this island would soon require very little assistance in clothing the convicts; but for the want of these necessary articles the only cloth that can be made is a canvas something finer than No. 7, which is thought to be equally strong and durable, as that made from European flax.

" This useful plant needs no cultivation. An experiment has been made to cultivate it, and answered extremely well; but the produce was not so much superior to that growing in a natural state, as to make it advisable to bestow any pains on its culture.

" Before the arrival of the two Zealanders, in May 1793, no effectual progress had been made in its manufacture; nor was it without much intreaty that our visitors were induced to furnish the information we required. And indeed, as this work is principally performed by the women in New Zealand, our friends were by no means competent to give us the fullest instructions. Sufficient, however, was obtained from them to improve upon. Since that time, those women

* P. 185.

† See p. 235.

that could be spared from other work, not exceeding from six to twelve, had been employed in preparing the flax; and a flax-dresser, weaver, and three other assistants, in manufacturing it into canvas, rope, &c.

"When the leaves are gathered, the hard stalk running through the centre is taken out with the thumb-nail; and the red edges of the leaf are also stripped off. The two parts are then separated in the middle, making four slips of about three quarters of an inch wide, and the length of from eighteen inches to three or four feet. These slips are cut across the centre with a muscle-shell, but not so deep as to separate the fibres, which is (are) the flax. The slips, thus prepared, are held in the left hand, with the thumb resting on the upper part of the slip just above the cut. The muscle-shell, held in the right-hand, is placed on the upper part, just below the cut, with the thumb resting on the upper part. The shell is drawn to the end of the slip, which separates the vegetable covering from the flaxen filaments. The slip is then trimmed, and the same operation is performed on the remaining part, which leaves the flax entire. If it be designed for fishing lines, or other coarse work, nothing more is done to it; but if intended for cloth, it is twisted, and beaten for a considerable time in a clear stream of water; and when dried, twisted into such threads as the work requires. It has been before observed, that the New Zealand instructors were not very conversant in the mode of preparing the flax; but on what was learnt from them, it was our business to improve. Instead of working it as soon as gathered, our people found it work better for being placed in a heap, in a close room, for five days or a week, after which it became softer and pleasanter to work. They also found it easier, and more expeditious, to scrape the vegetable covering from the fibres, which is done with three strokes of a knife. It is then twisted, and put into a tub of water, where it remains until the day's work is finished. The day following it is washed and beaten in a running stream. When sufficiently beaten it is dried, and needs no other preparation, until it is hackled, and spun into yarn for weaving.

"The numbers employed at this work were as follow:

Invalids gathering the flax	3, men.
Preparing it	7, women.
Beating and washing it	3, who are invalide.
Flax-dresser	1
Spinners	2, women.
Weaver and assistant	2, men.

Total . . . 18

By whose weekly labour sixteen yards of canvas, of the size of No. 7, was made. It is to be remarked, that the women, and most of the men, could be employed at no other work; and that the labour of manuring and cultivating the ground, the loss of other crops, the many processes used in manufacturing the European hemp, and the accidents to which it is liable during its growth, are all by using this flax avoided, as it needs no cultivation, and grows in sufficient abundance on all the cliffs of the island (where nothing else will grow) to give constant employment to five hundred people. Indeed should it

be thought an object, any quantity of canvas, rope, or linen, might be made there, provided there were men and women, weavers, flax-dressers, spinners, and rope-makers, with the necessary tools; but destitute as our people were of these aids, all that could be done was to keep in employ the few that could be spared from other essential work. If a machine could be constructed to separate the vegetable covering from the flaxen filaments, any quantity of this useful article might be prepared with great expedition." P. 516.

Notwithstanding the difficulty we have pointed out, the colony appears to possess several important advantages. It is probable that a seal, and perhaps a whale, fishery may be established with a fair prospect of success*; good rich earth is found near Sydney Cove†; there are immense strata of coal in the south part of New Holland‡; Norfolk Island abounds with lime§; and a vast quantity of shells, which answer the same purpose, have been found on the main land||. The country is covered with wood, but not of a very durable kind; the huts, which are constructed of the cabbage tree¶, soon roteted**; it was with difficulty that a main-mast was procured for the Supply tender††. It appears, however, that there was some good timber near the Hawksbury‡‡; and at Norfolk Island§§ and New Zealand it is remarkably fine: a ship that touched there was freighted with upwards of two hundred very fine trees, from 60 to 140 feet in length, for the use of the East-India Company|||. There seems likewise to be iron in the interior of the country¶¶.

To the activity of the governor, officers, and military, in preserving good order among people who had long felt the baneful influence of vice and immorality, we willingly bear testimony: in the subordinate concerns however of the colony, it appears that some mismanagement at first took place. Their live-stock was very soon sensibly diminished. Two months after their arrival five ewes and a lamb were destroyed, probably by the dogs of the natives*†; and shortly after, by some strange and unpardonable neglect in the convict who had been entrusted with the care of the cattle, the two bulls and four cows (all that were in the settlement) were lost. The man had been accustomed to drive them out daily to seek the freshest grass and best pasturage, and was ordered never, on any pretence, to leave them. To this order, as it afterwards appeared, he very seldom attended*§. The cattle were however

* P. 320, 187. † P. 21. ‡ P. 485, 617. § P. 233.
 || P. 555. ¶ P. 87. ** P. 101. †† P. 180. ‡‡ P. 442.
 §§ P. 23, 46. ||| P. 410. ¶¶ P. 384. *† P. 27.
 *§. P. 33.

found, in November 1795, grazing in a luxuriant meadow, about 38 miles from Paramatta. The herd was exceedingly wild, and had increased to upwards of sixty. Many proposals were made to bring them into the settlement; but it was considered that if they were suffered to remain undisturbed for some years, they might, like the cattle of South America, at length prove a market sufficient for the inhabitants of the country; and perhaps not only for their own consumption, but for exportation. The governor therefore determined to guard, as much as was in his power, against any attempts to destroy them*. In June, 1796, the herd had increased to 94†.

Proper machinery for grinding corn was long wanting. As late as March, 1794, neither wind nor water-mill had been erected‡. In 1795, however, an overshot water-mill was erected in Norfolk Island, at the trifling expence of three ewe sheep to the constructor, which ground and dressed 18 bushels of flour in a day§.

Among remarkable circumstances we may notice that a printing-press, which had been brought into the settlement by Governor Phillip, remained unemployed till November, 1795||; and that a play-house was opened at Sydney, in January, 1796. The managers and actors were convicts: their house was fitted up with more propriety than could have been expected, and their performance was far above contempt¶. A benefit for a widow and her family produced 12!***.

Of the state of the colony at different periods, the reader will be enabled to form some idea from the prices of provisions at different periods.

“ At Sydney, May, 1792††.	Coffee, 2s. to 2s. 6d. per lb.
Flour, from 6d. to 1s. per lb.	Salt pork, from 8d. to 9d. per lb.
Maize, from 12s. 6d. to 15s. per bushel.	Tobacco, Brazil, 3s. to 5s. per lb.
Chickens, six weeks old, 1s. each.	Sydney, December, 1793‡‡.
Eggs, 3d. a piece.	Wheat, per bushel, for cash, 10s.
Fresh pork, 1s. per lb.	Ditto, in payment for labour, 14s.
Potatoes, 3d. per lb.	Potatoes, 1½ per lb.
Good cabbages, 1d. each.	English flour, 6d. per lb.
Turnips, 6d. per dozen.	Flour of the country, 3d. per lb.
Sows, in pig, from 4l. 10s. to 6l. 6s.	Kangaroo, 4d. per lb.
Sucking pigs, 10s. each.	Maize, 7s. per bushel.
Molasses, from 1s. 6d. to 2s. 6d. per lb.	Sydney, September, 1796§§.
	Cows, 8ol.
	Horses, 9ol.
	Sheep, 7l. 10s.

* P. 436. † P. 484. ‡ P. 358. § P. 428. || P. 435.
¶ P. 448. ** P. 454. †† P. 214. ‡‡ P. 332. §§ P. 498.
Goats,

Goats, 4l.
 Turkeys, 1l. 1s.
 Geese, 1l. 1s.
 Fowls, full grown, 5s.
 Ducks, 5s.
 Fresh pork, 1s. 3d. per lb.
 Mutton, 2s.
 Goat, 1s. 6d.
 Kangaroo, 6d.
 Fish, 2½d.
 Eggs, per dozen, 2s.
 Salt pork, 1s. per lb.
 Potatoes, 12s. per cwt.
 Flour, 7½d. per lb.
 Wheat, 12s. per bushel.
 Barley, 10s.
 Pease, 7s.
 Maize, 5s.
 It o, ground, 8s.
 Butter, 3s. per lb.

Cheese, 3s. per lb.
 Hyson tea, 1l. 4s. per lb.
 Coffee, 2s.
 Sugar, soft, 1s.
 Soap, 2s.
 Virginia tobacco, 5s.
 Black pepper, 4s.
 Ginger, 3s.
 Red port, per bottle, 5s.
 Madeira, 4s.
 Rum, 5s.
 Gin, 6s.
 Porter, 2s.
 Beer, made at Sydney, from Indian corn, and bittered with the leaves and stalks of the love apple, 1s. 6d.
 Shoes, per pair, 9s. to 13s.
 Writing paper, per quire, 6s."

A good chart is much wanting to this work. That which accompanies it is confined to a few miles round Port Jackson: neither does it notice several places that are mentioned in the work.

We regret some grammatical inaccuracies; but the style is, in general, correct, and suited to the subject. As a fair specimen of the composition, we select the following account of the deaths of two well-known characters.

"At three in the morning of the 16th*, Mr. Joseph Gerald breathed his last. A consumption, which accompanied him from England, and which all his wishes and efforts to shake off could not overcome, at length brought him to that period when, perhaps, his strong enlightened mind must have perceived how full of vanity and vexation of spirit were the busiest concerns of this world; and into what a narrow limit was now to be thrust that frame which but of late trod firmly in the walk of life, elate and glowing with youthful hope, glorying in being a martyr to the cause which he termed that of freedom, and considering as an honour that exile which brought him to an untimely grave. He was followed, in three days, by another victim to mistaken opinions, Mr. William Skirving. A dysentery was the apparent cause of his death, but his heart was broken. In the hope of receiving remittances from England, which might enable him to proceed with spirit and success in farming, of which he appeared to have a thorough knowledge, he had purchased from different persons, who had ground to sell, about one hundred acres of land adjacent to the town of Sydney. He soon found that a farm near the sea-coast was of no great value. His attention and his efforts to cultivate the ground were of no avail. Remittances he received none; he contracted some little debts, and

* March, 1796.

found himself neglected by that party for whom he had sacrificed the dearest connexions in life, a wife and family; and finally yielded to the pressure of this accumulated weight. Among us he was a pious, honest, worthy character. In this settlement his political principles never manifested themselves; but all his solicitude seemed to be to evince himself the friend of human nature. *Requiescat in pace.*" P. 469.

It is some comfort to find that, in this instance, the mind appeared meliorated by exile. We fear, however, that Jacobinism is in general incorrigible.

The device of the seal of the colony, *Sic fortis Etruria crevit*, appears to us to be equivocal: we presume its true meaning is, that Old Rome rose to greatness by industry and virtue; but it may likewise be interpreted to signify, that Old Rome, like New South Wales, was founded by a band of robbers.

We sincerely hope that some gentleman, resident in the settlement, will continue Mr. Collins's journal; as it is a work which, we must again observe, will be of the greatest use to both legislator and historian*.

ART. VIII. *A New and General Biographical Dictionary.*

(Concluded from our last, P. 254.)

WE proceed in our account of this useful and interesting work, by giving extracts from the volumes which remain, and severally taken from parts executed by the other editors. It has been before observed, that the ten last volumes were consigned to two writers, who chose to take them alternately. There must be very few of our readers to whom the following life of the great Lord Chatham will not be highly acceptable.

"PITT (WILLIAM) Earl of Chatham, one of the most illustrious statesmen whom this country has produced, was the son of Robert Pitt, esq. of Boscnoek in Cornwall, and grandson of Thomas Pitt, Governor of Madras, who was purchaser of the celebrated diamond, afterwards called the regent. The family was originally of Dorsetshire, where it had been long and respectably established. William Pitt was born Nov. 15, 1708, and educated at Eton; whence in January, 1726, he went as a gentleman-commoner to Trinity college, Oxford. It has been said that he was not devoid of poetical talents,

* We are happy to find, that the Committee of Finance have recommended, as a measure necessary to enable the House of Commons to form a proper judgment respecting this colony, that as soon as convenient after the next arrivals, information should be called for on a copious plan, exhibiting the state of the colony down to the latest period. 28 Report from the Select Committee of Finance.

of which a few specimens have been produced; but they do not amount to much, and of his Latin verses on the death of George the First, it is natural to suspect that the whole merit was not his own. When he quitted the university, Pitt was for a time in the military line and served as a cornet, but his talents leading more decisively to another field of action, he quitted the life of a soldier for that of a statesman, and became a member of parliament for the borough of Old Sarum, in February, 1735. In this situation his abilities were soon distinguished, and he spoke with great eloquence against the Spanish convention in 1738. It was on the occasion of the bill for registering seamen in 1740, which he opposed as arbitrary and unjustifiable, that he made his celebrated reply to Mr. Horatio Walpole, who had attacked him on account of his youth (though then thirty-two) adding, that the discovery of truth is little promoted by pompous diction and theatrical emotion. Mr. Pitt retorted, with great severity, "I will not undertake to determine whether youth can justly be imputed to any man as a reproach, but I will affirm that the wretch who, after having seen the consequences of repeated errors, continues still to blunder, and whose age has only added obstinacy to stupidity, is surely the object of either abhorrence or contempt, and deserves not that his grey head should secure him from insults. Much more is he to be abhorred, who, as he has advanced in age, has receded from virtue, and becomes more wicked with less temptation; who prostitutes himself for money which he cannot enjoy; and spends the remains of his life in the ruin of his country."

"Though he held no place immediately from the crown, Mr. Pitt had for some time enjoyed that of groom of the bed-chamber to Frederick prince of Wales, but resigned it in 1745; and continuing steady in his opposition to the measures of the ministry, experienced about the same time that fortune, which more than once attended him, of having his public services repaid by private zeal. The dowager dutchess of Marlborough left him by will 10,000*l.* expressly for defending the laws of his country, and endeavouring to prevent its ruin. It was thought soon after an object of importance to obtain his co-operation with government, and in 1746 he was made joint vice-treasurer of Ireland; and, in the same year, treasurer and pay-master-general of the army, and a privy counsellor. In 1755, thinking it necessary to make a strong opposition to the continental connections then formed by the ministry, he resigned his places, and remained for some time out of office. But in December, 1756, he was called to a higher situation, being appointed secretary of state for the southern department. In this high office he was more successful in obtaining the confidence of the public than that of the king, some of whose wishes he thought himself bound to oppose. In consequence of this he was soon removed, with Mr. Legge, and some others of his friends. The nation, however, was not disposed to be deprived of the services of Mr. Pitt. The most exalted idea of him had been taken up throughout the kingdom: not only of his abilities, which were evinced by his consummate eloquence, but of his exalted, judicious, and disinterested patriotism. This general opinion of him, and in some degree of his colleagues, was so strongly expressed, not merely by personal honours conferred on them, but by addresses to the throne in their favour, that
the

the king thought it prudent to restore them to their employments. On June 29, 1757, Mr. Pitt was again made secretary of state, Mr. Legge chancellor of the exchequer, with other arrangements according to their wishes. Mr. Pitt was now considered as prime minister, and to the extraordinary ability of his measures, and the vigour of his whole administration, is attributed the great change which quickly appeared in the state of public affairs. It was completely shewn how much the spirit of one man may animate a whole nation. The activity of the minister pervaded every department. His plans, which were ably conceived, were executed with the utmost promptitude; and the depression which had arisen from torpor and ill success, was followed by exertion, triumph, and confidence. The whole fortune of the war was changed; in every quarter of the world we were triumphant; the boldest attempts were made by sea and land, and almost every attempt was fortunate. In America the French lost Quebec, in Africa their principal settlements fell, in the East-Indies their power was abridged, and in Europe their armies defeated; while their navy, their commerce, and their finances were little less than ruined. Amidst this career of success king George II. died, October 25, 1760. His present majesty ascended the throne at a time when the policy of the French court had just succeeded in obtaining the co-operation of Spain. The family compact had been secretly concluded; and the English minister, indubitably informed of the hostile intentions of Spain, with his usual vigour of mind, had determined on striking the first blow, before the intended enemy should be fully prepared for action. He proposed in the privy council an immediate declaration of war against Spain, urging with great energy, that this was the favourable moment, perhaps never to be regained, for humbling the whole house of Bourbon. In this measure he was not supported, and the nation attributed the opposition he encountered, to the growing influence of the earl of Bute. Mr. Pitt, of much too high a spirit to remain as the nominal head of a cabinet, which he was no longer able to direct, resigned his places on the 5th of October, 1761; when, as some reward for his eminent services, his wife was created baroness of Chatham in her own right, and a pension of three thousand pounds was settled on the lives of himself, his lady, and his eldest son.

"No fallen minister ever carried with him more completely the confidence and regret of the nation, over whose councils he had presided: but the king was also popular at this time, and the war being continued by his new ministers with vigour and success, no discontent appeared till after the conclusion of peace. Our triumphs in the West Indies over both France and Spain, had particularly elated the spirits of the people, and it was conceived that we ought either to dictate a peace as conquerors, or continue the war till our adversaries should be more effectually humbled. With these ideas, when the preliminaries for peace were discussed in parliament, Mr. Pitt, though he had been for some time confined by a severe fit of the gout, went down to the house of commons, and spoke for nearly three hours in the debate. He gave his opinion distinctly upon almost every article in the treaty, and upon the whole, maintained that it was inadequate to the conquests, and just expectations of the kingdom. Peace was however concluded

on the 10th of February, 1763, and Mr. Pitt continued unemployed. He had the magnanimity not to enter into that petulant and undiscriminating plan of opposition, which has so frequently disgraced the ill-judging candidates for power; but maintained his popularity in dignified retirement, and came forward only when great occasions appeared to demand his interference. One of these was the important question of general warrants in 1764, the illegality of which he maintained with all the energy of his genius and eloquence. A search or seizure of papers, without a specific charge alledged, would be, as he justly contended, repugnant to every principle of liberty. The most innocent man could not be secure. "But by the British constitution," he continued, "every man's house is his castle. Not that it is surrounded with walls and battlements. It may be a straw-built shed. Every wind of heaven may whistle round it. All the elements of nature may enter in. But the king cannot; the king dare not."

"When the discontents in America began to appear, on the occasion of the stamp act, Mr. Pitt again found a subject for his exertions. The repeal of that act being proposed in March, 1766, by the new ministry of the Rockingham party, Mr. Pitt, though not connected with them, very forcibly supported the measure; which was carried; whether wisely, or fortunately, is still a matter of dispute. About this time died Sir William Pynsent, of Burton Pynsent in Somersetshire, a man of considerable property, who, through mere admiration of Mr. Pitt in his public character, disinherited his own relations, and made him heir to the bulk of his estate. It was certainly a remarkable proof of the very uncommon estimation in which this statesman was held, that a circumstance of this nature should have happened to him at two different periods of his life.

"The Rockingham ministry proved unable to maintain its ground; a new administration was formed, and Mr. Pitt, in 1766, was made lord privy seal. At the same time he was created a peer, by the titles of viscount Pitt, of Burton Pynsent, in the county of Somerset, and earl of Chatham, in the county of Kent. Whatever might be his motives for accepting this elevation, he certainly sunk by it in popularity, at least as much as he rose in nominal dignity. The great commoner, as he was sometimes styled, had formed a rank to himself, on the sole basis of his talents and exertions, for which the titular honours, which he was now to participate with many others, could not in the public opinion compensate. Still it must be owned that the high and hereditary distinction of the peerage, is a just and honourable object of ambition to a British commoner; which, if he attains it, as Mr. Pitt appears to have done, without any improper concession or stipulation, may be considered as the fair reward of past services, and the most permanent monument of public gratitude. Lord Chatham, whatever might be the cause, did not long continue in office; he resigned the place of lord privy seal on the 2d of November, 1768, and it was the last public employment which he ever accepted. He does not indeed appear to have been desirous of returning to office. He was now sixty, and the gout, by which he had been long afflicted, had become so frequent and violent in its attacks, to allow of close or regular application to business. In the intervals of his disorder he continued occasionally to exert himself, on questions of great magnitude, and was parti-

particularly strenuous in 1775, and the ensuing years, against the measures pursued by the ministers in the contest with America. Nevertheless, in all things he maintained his native spirit. When France began to interfere in the contest, he fired with indignation at the insult; and when, in 1778, it was thought necessary, after the repeated misfortunes of the war, to acknowledge the independence of America, he summoned up all the strength that remained within him, to pour out his disapprobation of a measure so inglorious. He did so in a speech of considerable energy, and being answered in the course of the debate by the duke of Richmond, seemed agitated with a desire to reply: but when he attempted to rise, the effort proved too violent for his debilitated constitution, and he sunk, in a kind of fit, into the arms of those who were near him. This extraordinary scene of a great statesman, almost dying in the last exertion of his talents, has been perpetuated by the pencil, and will live for ever in the memory of his countrymen. He did not long survive this effort. This debate happened on the 8th of April, 1778, and he died on the 11th of May ensuing.

"All parties appeared now to contend to do honour to his memory: a public funeral, and a monument in Westminster Abbey, at the national expence, were immediately voted by parliament, and his majesty was addressed to settle upon his family "such a lasting provision as he in his wisdom and liberality should think fit, as a mark of the sense the nation entertains of the services done to this kingdom by that able statesman." A pension of 4000*l.* a year was accordingly appointed by his majesty, out of the civil list revenue, and confirmed in perpetuity by parliament, to the heirs of the earl of Chatham, to whom the title should descend. The monument raised to his memory is highly worthy of the occasion, being perhaps the noblest effort of British sculpture. His figure appears upon it, at full length, in his parliamentary robes, and in the attitude of speaking; the accompaniments are grand and appropriate, and the inscription has a simple dignity, much more impressive than any pomp of words, announcing merely that the king and parliament have paid this tribute to his merits.

"The principal outlines of lord Chatham's character, sagacity, promptitude, and energy, will be perceived in the foregoing narrative. The peculiar powers of his eloquence have been characterized since his death, in language which will convey a forcible idea of it to every reader. "They who have been witnesses to the wonders of his eloquence, who have listened to the music of his voice, or trembled at its majesty; who have seen the persuasive gracefulness of his action, or have felt its force; they who have caught the flame of eloquence from his eye, who have rejoiced in the glories of his countenance, or shrunk from his frowns, will remember the resistless power with which he impressed conviction. But to those who have never seen or heard this accomplished orator, the utmost effort of imagination will be necessary, to form a just idea of that combination of excellence, which gave perfection to his eloquence. His elevated aspect, commanding the awe and mute attention of all who beheld him, while a certain grace in his manner, arising from a consciousness of the dignity of his situation, of the solemn scene in which he acted, as well as of his own exalted character, seemed to acknowledge and repay the respect which he received,

ceived.—This extraordinary personal dignity, supported on the basis of his well-earned fame, at once acquired to his opinions an assent, which is slowly given to the arguments of other men. His assertions rose into proof, his foresight became prophecy.—No clue was necessary to the labyrinth illuminated by his genius. Truth came forth at his bidding, and realized the wish of the philosopher: she was seen and beloved.—We have omitted some parts of this spirited character because not written with equal judgment: but the result of the whole is, that while he fought with indefatigable diligence the best and purest sources of political information, he had a mind which threw new lights upon every topic, and directed him with more certainty than any adventitious aid. Another account of his extraordinary powers, more concise, but drawn with wonderful spirit, is attributed to the pen of Mr. Wilkes. “He was born an orator, and from nature possessed every outward requisite to bespeak respect, and even awe. A manly figure, with the eagle eye of the famous Condé, fixed your attention, and almost commanded reverence the moment he appeared; and the keen lightnings of his eye spoke the high spirit of his soul, before his lips had pronounced a syllable. There was a kind of fascination in his look when he eyed any one askance. Nothing could withstand the force of that contagion. The fluent Murray has faltered, and even Fox (afterwards Lord Holland) shrunk back appalled, from an adversary, “fraught with fire unquenchable,” if I may borrow the expression of our great Milton. He had not the correctness of language so striking in the great Roman orator (we may add, and in his son), but he had the *verba ardentia*, the bold glowing words.”—Lord Chesterfield has given a more general picture of his character, in the following words. “Mr. Pitt owed his rise to the most considerable post and power in this kingdom, singly to his own abilities. In him they supplied the want of birth and fortune, which latter, in others too often supply the want of the former. He was the younger brother, of a very new family, and his fortune was only an annuity of one hundred pounds a year. The army was his original destination, and a cornetcy of horse his first and only commission in it. Thus unassisted by favour or fortune, he had no powerful protector to introduce him into business, and (if I may use that expression) to do the honours of his parts, but their own strength was fully sufficient. His constitution refused him the usual pleasures, and his genius forbid him the idle dissipations of youth; for so early as at the age of sixteen he was the martyr of an hereditary gout. He therefore employed the leisure, which that tedious and painful distemper either procured or allowed him, in acquiring a great fund of premature and useful knowledge. Thus by the unaccountable relation of causes and effects, what seemed the greatest misfortune of his life, was perhaps the principal cause of its splendour. His private life was stained by no vice, nor sullied by any meanness. All his sentiments were liberal and elevated. His ruling passion was an unbounded ambition, which, when supported by great abilities, and crowned with great success, makes what the world calls a great man. He was haughty, imperious, impatient of contradiction, and overbearing; qualities which too often accompany, but always clog great ones. He had manners and address, but one might discover

discover through them too great a consciousness of his own superior talents. He was a most agreeable and lively companion in social life, and had such a versatility of wit, that he could adapt it to all sorts of conversation. He had also a most happy turn to poetry, but he seldom indulged, and seldom avowed it. He came young into parliament, and upon that theatre he soon equalled the oldest and the ablest actors. His eloquence was of every kind, and he excelled in the argumentative, as well as in the declamatory way. But his invectives were terrible, and uttered with such energy of diction, and such dignity of action and countenance, that he intimidated those who were the most willing and best able to encounter him. Their arms fell out of their hands, and they shrunk under the ascendant which his genius gained over theirs." As a proof of this wonderful power, it is related that Sir Robert Walpole scarcely heard the sound of his voice in the house of commons, when he was alarmed and thunderstruck. He told his friends, that he would be glad at any rate, "to muzzle that terrible cornet of horse." That minister would have promoted his rise in the army, if he would have given up his seat in the house." Vol. xii, p. 254.

From the 15th volume, we extract the lives of Toup and Tyrwhitt.

"TOUP (JONATHAN), was born at St. Ives, in Cornwall, in 1713. He received the first principles of his education in a grammar-school in that town, and was afterwards placed under the care of Mr. Gurney, master of a private school, in the parish of St. Merryn. He was removed from this school to Exeter-college, Oxford, where he took his degree of bachelor of arts; but his master of arts degree was taken at Cambridge in the year 1756. In 1750, he was appointed to the rectory of St. Martin's, and, in 1774, was installed prebendary of Exeter. In 1776, he was instituted to the vicarage of St. Merryn's. He owed these two last pieces of preferment to the patronage of bishop Keppel. Mr. Toup published the first part of his "*Emendationes in Suidam*" in 1760, and the second part in 1764. This learned work introduced him to the friendship of bishop Warburton, who, having no preferment to bestow, recommended Mr. Toup, first to archbishop Secker and afterwards to bishop Keppel. The third part of the "*Emendationes in Suidam*" appeared in 1766. In 1767, Mr. Toup published his "*Epistola Critica ad Virum celeberrimum Gul. Episcop. Gloc.*" In 1771, Mr. Warton's edition of "*Theocritus*" made its appearance, enriched with many notes and corrections from the pen of Toup. In 1772, he published his "*Appendiculum notarum in Theocritum*," in which was the substance of a remark which the university had cancelled from Warton's edition of the Greek poet. Mr. Toup's next work was the "*Appendiculum notarum in Suidam*;" this he published in 1775; and in 1778 his "*Longinus*" was printed in 4to, at the Oxford press; a second edition was afterwards printed in 8vo, Mr. Toup was possessed of profound learning and great critical sagacity. He was known and esteemed not only by all the more learned of his countrymen at home, but also by Ernestus, Hemsterhusius, Runkeljus, Valknaer, Brunck, Larcher, and the most distinguished characters

characters abroad. To most of the persons above-mentioned Mr. Toup contributed occasionally in the progress of their different works. His whole life was passed in literary retirement; and he consequently was distinguished by some of those infirmities which only a commerce with the world can prevent or cure. But he was a kind neighbour, an indulgent master, and an affectionate relation. Mr. Toup was never married, but for the latter years of his life lived with his half-sister by the same mother. His name was Jonathau, as observed at the beginning of this article; but in the latter productions of his pen he always signed himself Joannes Toup. Mr. Toup died in 1785, at the age of 72, and was buried under the communion-table in his church of St. Martin." Vol. xv, p. 9.

"**TYRWHITT** (THOMAS), an excellent scholar, acute critic, and most amiable private character, was born in the year 1730. Mr. Tyrwhitt's father was a canon of Windsor, and rector of St. James's, Westminster: by his mother's side he was grandson of bishop Gibson. At the age of six he went to school at Kensington, whence he was removed to Eton in 1741. He went to Queen's college, Oxford, in 1747, and was elected fellow of Merton in 1755. He proceeded at Oxford as far as master of arts, and in 1756 was under-secretary at war under lord Barrington. In 1761, he succeeded Jeremiah Dyson, esq. as principal clerk of the house of commons, which, after a period of six years, he resigned to Mr. Hatfield. In 1784, he was elected to the office of curator to the British Museum, with his friend the very learned and deservedly-esteemed Mr. Cracherode. His publications were numerous, and appeared nearly in the following order: 1. "Translations in Verse;" "Pope's Messiah;" "Philips's Splendid Shilling, in Latin," and "the eighth Iliadian of Pindar in English." 2. "Observations and Conjectures on some Passages in Shakspeare." Mr. Tyrwhitt afterwards communicated many judicious remarks on our national bard to Mr. Steevens and Mr. Reed. 3. "Fragmenta duo Plutarchi, 1773, from an Harleian Ms. 5612." He observes himself of this, that it had no great merit, and was only published to stimulate other and similar enquiries. 4. "The Canterbury Tales of Chaucer," in 4 vols. 8vo. to which he afterwards added a 5th volume in 1778.—This is certainly the best edited English classic that has ever appeared. 5. "Dissertatio de Babrio, Fabularum Æsopiarum Scriptore. —Inferuntur fabulæ quædam Æsopiæ nunquam antehac editæ ex cod. Ms. Bodl. Accedunt Babrii fragmenta. 1776." The object of this publication, which, though small in size, evinced the greatest critical acumen, was to shew, that many of the fables which pass under the name of Æsop were from another ancient writer of the name of Babrius, whose fragments are preserved in Suidas in verse. 6. Mr. Tyrwhitt's next publication, we believe, was "Elsing on Parliaments." 7. "Poems, supposed to have been written at Bristol in the 15th Century, by Rowley and others: with a Preface, an Account of the Poems, and a Glossary." This was twice re-published in 1778, with an Appendix tending to prove that they were written, not by any ancient author, but by Chatterton. This became the subject of warm controversy, which, however, was settled by, 8. "A Vindication of the Appendix

to the Poems called Rowley's, in reply to the Dean of Exeter, Jacob Bryant, esq. and others, by Thomas Tyrwhitt." Mr. Tyrwhitt's next work was of a different kind, namely, 9. ΠΕΡΙ ΛΙΘΩΝ, de Lapidibus, Poema Orpheo a quibusdam adscriptum, Græce et Latine, ex edit. Jo. Matthæi Gesneri.—Recensuit, notasque adiecit, Thomas Tyrwhitt. Simul prodit auctarium dissertationis de Babrio." Mr. Tyrwhitt in this critical work, refers the Poem "on Stones" to the age of Constantius. He next printed for his private friends, 10. "Conjecturæ in Strabonem;" and he also superintended, 11. "Two Dissertations on the Grecian Mythology, and an examination of Sir Isaac Newton's objection to the Chronology of the Olympiads." His last literary labour was, 12. "A newly discovered Oration of Iseus against Menecles," which Mr. Tyrwhitt revised in 1785, and enriched with valuable notes. Mr. Tyrwhitt died in 1786, and left his printed books to the British Museum; that is, such as were not there already. He was of a calm and philosophic temper; from his earliest age, of the strongest propensity for literary pursuits, and in private life of the most amiable virtues. He was many years fellow of the Royal Society, and received throughout his life the most distinguished honours as a scholar, a man of genius, and a most excellent and amiable private character." Vol. xv, p. 34.

We observed, in a former number, that a work like the present must of necessity be considered as always in progress; of which it is a sufficient proof, that an account of the lives of Edmund Burke, Sir William Jones, Horace Walpole, Wilkes, Mason, and many others, are already required. Nevertheless it must be allowed to this publication, that it is executed with great fidelity and diligence; that no errors of the different individuals thus brought before the public have been wilfully cancelled, or wantonly exaggerated; that it may at least assert the claim of liberality and candour; that it is without competition the most perfect of the kind in our language; and that it will afford to readers of every description a satisfactory source both of amusement and information. It may be necessary to say a few words of the foreign works which may eventually be brought into comparison with this of our own country, namely, of the *Onomasticon* of Saxius, printed in Latin at Utrecht, 1775-90, and of the *Dictionnaire Historique*, in 7 vols. 8vo, printed at Lyons. The former, though undoubtedly very useful, is in fact but a mere catalogue of dates and names, with very little to illustrate the character of the writer, or merit of his performances, and is confined to authors only. The last is deservedly of great reputation; but in this, local prejudices have so far prevailed, that the reader is compelled to labour through a numerous multitude, who have little more to recommend them to notice than having been

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Doctors

Doctors of the Sorbonne, or controversialists in subtile points of disputative theology. Upon the whole, this General Biographical Dictionary will preserve a respectable place among the best productions of the English press, and if not entirely destitute of inaccuracies and imperfections, is entitled to much and very considerable praise.

ART. IX. *Icelandic Poetry, or the Edda of Saemund. Translated into English Verse, by A. S. Cottle, of Magdalen College, Cambridge.* 8vo. 6s. Robinsons. 1797.

THIS volume is introduced by a well-written Preface, which distinctly, though concisely, describes the state of the northern nations of Europe, at the gloomy period when the enthusiasm of a fierce superstition gave rise to those tenets which are to be found in the Edda. The author of the Odes which are known by the name of the Edda, was Saemund, who was born in the year 1056, and was an historian as well as poet. This composition remained unknown till the year 1639, when it was discovered by Bryniolfus Suenonius, who gave it the name which it still retains. The mythology of the north is delineated with much energy in these Odes, which have at various periods exercised the acuteness of critics, and the talents of poets. The former have amused themselves with tracing a fancied resemblance between the northern mythology and that of Greece; the latter have transfused the spirit of the Edda into the different languages of Europe. It remains to give a specimen of a work executed throughout with spirit and elegance.

“ SKIRNER.

Maiden! see this sword divine
With finely polish'd lustre shine:
Soul of beauty! thou art dead—
Sever'd thy devoted head—
If resolv'd with proud disdain,
Still to slight thy lover's pain.

GERDA.

My right, my freedom, and my hand,
I yield to no proud foe's demand;
While Gimer can his faulcon rear,
I, nor thee, nor Freyer fear.

SKIRNER.

Maiden! see this sword I wear,
'Temper'd with celestial care:

Cont

Canst thou view thy father fall,
Mangled in his cheerful hall?
If thou consent not, 'tis decreed
By this the hoary chief shall bleed.

Again behold this wand I lift,
Virtued with the wondrous gift?
Of taming stubborn mortals still,
Obedient to superior will.
Maiden! thou consign'd shall be,
To endless, dark obscurity.

Just as the famish'd eagle high
On cliffs that seem to prop the sky,
At morning's dawn, with eager ken,
Looks wistful o'er the distant glen:
So thou to joy alive no more,
Shalt cast thine eyes t'wards Hela's shore:
The charm of sweetest sound shall die
And pleasure from thy palate fly;
While noxious favor taints thy food,
Worse than the serpent's venom'd blood.

Forth shalt thou go a monster seen,
Defil'd with noisome filth obscene.
On thee shall Hrimper fix his eyes,
And mortals stare in mute surprise:
Far off like some malignant star,
Thine infamy shall gleam afar:
Yet ever thro' thy prison grate,
To look and languish be thy fate.

Solitude's unvarying hour;
Hatred's heart-corroding power;
Clanking chains that galling bind;
Impatience—scorpion of the mind;
These are tortures thou shalt know,
While floods of grief unceasing flow.
Maiden sit awhile and hear,
What other woes afflict thee near:
For good that's past, and ills to come,
Double sorrow is thy doom—

Horror shall thy path attend,
Where'er thy lonely footsteps bend;
Daily where Hrimthursar* reign,
Go *progress* mournful o'er the plain,
Opprest with soul tormenting care—
Prey of comfortless despair.
Thou art doom'd in tears to find
The only solace of thy mind:

* The fiercest giants,
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The lengthen'd sorrow—ceaseless tear,
In thy destiny appear.

Three-headed monsters, standing round,
Shall ever with their yells confound :
At night around thy joyless bed,
No nuptial torch its rays shall shed :
Grief shall leave thee no repose,
At morning's dawn—at even's close :
Despair shall round thy soul be twin'd.
And drink the vigor of thy mind ;
As round the oak rank ivy cleaves,
Steals all its sap, and blasts its leaves.

An unshorn mountain's brow I sought,
Where never lonely woodman wrought ;
There the magic wand I found,
And pluck'd it joyful from the ground.
Thy cruelty hath Odin spied ;
Thundering Thor beheld thy pride ;
E'en Freyer now has felt disdain—
But e'er, O Maiden ! you obtain,
The vengeance due from Gods on high,
Giants shall thy doom desery ;

Hrimthurfar shall thy wailings hear ;
Suttungi sons shall freeze with fear ;
And godlike heroes shudd'ring see,
The horrors of thy destiny.
Now the nuptial joy is marr'd !
Now the mother's hope debarr'd !

Midst prisons of the ghastly dead,
Whence smiling hope is ever fled,
Himgrimmer shall thy duranc keep,
With watchful eyes that never sleep.
Squalid youths with ghastly grin,
In hollow bitter roots shall bring,
Urine of the unsav'ry goat,
To quell the parchings of thy throat.

Better cups shall never grace
The orgies of that direful place.
All thy prayers shall cease to move,
The soul of disappointed love.
Mark the giant ! mark him well !
Hear me his attendants tell !
Can'st thou with the Fiends engage,
Madness, Impotence, and Rage ?
Thus thy torments I describe :
The furies in my breast *subside* * ;

* Does the author call this a rhyme ? Rev.

Peace her empire has begun ;
The die is cast—the work is done.

GERDA.

Youth ! some words of comfort say—
Cease thy angry threats, I pray.
The massy flaggon deign to wield,
With generous cool meadeglin fill'd.
Gods ! and shall I never prove,
The sweets of honourable love ?

SKIRNER.

Before my mission I complete,
Tell me what the happy feat !
Where thou to gentle Freyer's arms,
Wilt yield possession of thy charms.

GERDA.

In Barian groves the appointment keep,
Where winds on billowy verdure sleep :
And when nine nights their course have run,
I there will meet Niorder's son.

Skirner returns home, and is met by Freyer, who immediately begins—

FREYER.

E'er thy foot the green sword press,
Tell me, Skirner ! what success ?

SKIRNER.

In Barian groves the appointment keep,
Where winds on billowy verdure sleep.
There, when nine nights their course have run,
The maid will meet Niorder's son.

FREYER.

One is long—yet longer twain—
But who a third night can sustain ?
Whole months in swifter current move,
Than half one sleepless night of love." P. 90.

The translation is accompanied with appropriate notes, which evince both a classical taste and a knowledge of the author's immediate subject ; but we do not see why the Ode alluded to in p. 29 should have been omitted : at least, the reason given does not to us appear sufficient.

ART. X. ΕΥΡΙΠΙΔΟΥ ΟΡΕΣΤΗΣ. *Euripidis Orestes, ad fidem Manuscriptorum emendata, et brevibus notis, emendationum potissimum rationes reddentibus, instructa. In usum studiosæ Juventutis.* Londini, impensis G. Wilkie, Paternoster-Row. 8vo. 3s. 6d. 1798.

WE announce with pleasure the continuance of Professor Porson's valuable labours upon Euripides. Of his general ability for the arduous task of an edition of the Greek Tragedians, and the particular merits displayed in his first specimen, we had occasion to speak at large (*Brit. Crit.* vol. x, p. 612). We shall therefore immediately proceed to point out what appears to us most deserving of notice in the present publication.

V. 3. Mr. Porson is too ingenuous a man, and too accomplished a scholar, to borrow from his predecessors without acknowledgment, otherwise we might remark the extreme similarity of this note to that of Mulgrave upon v. 1. So also in the note to v. 20.

64. παθίων, ἡμῶν τε μητρὶ παρὶδων τεύχων.

Those who observed Mr. Wakefield's violent attack upon the Professor's edition of the Hecuba, have anxiously waited to see what notice would be taken of it by his learned antagonist. Mr. Wakefield's name is not mentioned, nor the attack in question formally noticed in this publication: but in the note to the verse now quoted, his main fortress is assailed and overthrown, in a manner most convincing and satisfactory in the principle; though in the style sufficiently peremptory.

“Cur N finalem in ἐπικλωσεν v. 12 et similibus addiderim, nemo nisi qui communi sensu plane careat, requireret. Sed erunt fortasse nonnulli, qui minus necessario hoc factum arbitraturi sint in παρὶδων. Rationes igitur semel exponam, nunquam posthac moniturus. Quæquam enim sæpe syllabas natura breves positione produciunt Tragicæ, longè libentius corripunt, adeo ut tria præ exempla correptarum invenias, ubi unum modo exisset productarum. Sed hoc genus licentiarum, in verbis scilicet non compositis qualia τέκνον, πατὴρ, ceteris longè frequentius est. Rarius multo syllaba produciuntur in verbo composito, si in ipsam juncturam cadit, ut in πολύχρυσος Andr. 2. Eadem parsimonia in augmentis producendis utuntur, ut in ἐπικλωσεν Sup. 12. κκλῶδαι Sophoc. Elect. 366. Rarius adhuc licentia est, ubi præpositio verbo jungitur, ut in ἀπότρωπι Phœn. 600. Sed ubi verbum in brevem vocalem definit, eamque duæ consonantes excipiunt, quæ brevem manere patiantur, vix credo exempla indubie fidei inveniri posse, in quibus syllaba ista produciatur. Ineptus esset, quicumque ad MSS. in tali causa provocaret, cum nulla sit eorum auctoritas; id solum depre-

cor,

cor, ne quis contra hanc regulam eorum testimonio utatur; MSS. enim neque alter alteri consentiunt, neque idem MS. sibi ipse per omnia constat. Quod si ea, quæ disputavi vera sunt, planum est, in fine vocis addendam esse litteram, quam addidi."

79. ἔπλευσ' ὅπως ἔπλευσα θεοματῶι πότμω.

The text is improved by the omission of the MS. δ', as well as the conjectural δα.

168. The comma, instead of being placed after *πλακς*, appears after *ἀπέρων* in this edition; not, surely, to the improvement of the sense.

170. οὐκ ἀπ' οἴκων
πάλιν ἀντ', μεθιμένα κλύουσ,
πῶδα σὺν εὐλίξεις.

The transposition of the two latter clauses, and the punctuation adopted in consequence of it, throw great light upon the construction of this passage; and, in general, the choral parts of this play have derived much illustration from the masterly skill of the Professor.

221. κλῖν' μ' ἐς εὐνὴν αὐθις ἔταν ἀντ' ὄσος
μανίας μ', ἀναρθρός εἰμι, κάσθην μῆλη—

The following note has our entire assent. Our readers need not be informed, that, in Mr. Porson's notes, the terms *recte*, *doctè*, *verissimè*, &c. do not always imply approbation.

"Ald. ὅταν μ' ἀντ' ὄσος μανίας. Delet μ' Heathius, recte repugnante Brunckio. Ipse in versum proximum transposuit. Præterea ex Scholiastæ auctoritatē accentum in *μανίας* mutavi, et ex substantivo adjectivum feci. *μανιάων ὄσος* Sophocl. Aj. 59. *μανίᾳσιν λυσσάμασι* mox 264. *λύσας μανιάδος* 320. *λυσσα μανίας* fragm. apud Stobæum Grot. p. 231."

We may take occasion to observe from this correction (among many other instances) that accents are not so useless as some scholars think, and have wished to represent them. The remark is strengthened from another objection in the work before us.

"Sic mox 631. *κρίσσει* habet Harl. quod exemplorum suorum consulo addat fortasse aliquis paullo calidior, et elegantiam hanc recondito isto, *Dulce satis humer*, defendat. Sed librarii errorem esse inde liquet, quod acutum pro circumflexo posuerit."

246. The Professor, as in the former tragedy, is rather fond of indulging his satyric vein, at the expence of his brother critics.

"*φρονι* pro *λεγι* habent Stobæi codices; recte tamen vertit Cantabrigiæ *loquens*; 'λαλει pro φρονι posui,' inquit Grotius, 'conjectura duc-

tus; nam sequitur φρόνι.² Sed cum πρᾶντι pro φρόνι det Hærl. ex ejus et Stobæi conjunctione bellissimus exsurgit versus, quem Clericus, Reiskius, Trillerus, si viverent, amplecterentur; quemque amplectentur, sat scio, Graizæ gentis decora, Ammonius et Invernixius.

καὶ μὴ μόνον φρόνι, ἀλλὰ καὶ πρᾶσσι ταῦτα."

This reproach is surely unnecessary; and to such men as Grotius and Le Clerc hardly candid, since it holds out their errors to ridicule, without saying one word of the numerous merits by which they were redeemed. Their labours in other branches of literature, and particularly in theology, were so meritorious, that we think it incumbent upon us to offer this kind of counterbalance to a formidable attack upon their memories. But metrical ignorance is a crime which this editor cannot easily forgive. Reiske is attacked again at v. 412; and, with more justice, at v. 273.

324. διὰ τὸ δάπνδον.

"Primum in δάπνδον producit Æschylus Prom. 828. aut, si locus corruptus est, et hic et ibi legendum est γάπνδον. Stephanus Byz. v. Γη' λέγεται καὶ γήπνδον τὸ πρὸς τοῖς οἴκοις ἐν πόλει κτηνόν, ὅπερ οἱ τραγῳδοὶ διὰ τὸ α φασὶ, Διφιζόντας."

Musgrave not only refers to the passage in the Prometheus, but to Lycophr. v. 617, and to an epigram of Paulus Silentiarius Anthol. H. Steph. p. 453*. The Scholiast upon the latter passage agrees with Musgrave, and refers to the Prometheus; but we observe Mr. Porson's conjecture strengthened by the various reading in Lycophron, which is γαπνδον, MS. Seld,

393. δεινὴ γὰρ ἡ θεὸς, ἀλλ' ἔμως ἰσχυρός.

We cite the note upon this verse, because it satisfactorily defends the editor's judicious position respecting the anapæst in the third placet.

"Eodem modo Herc. F. 346, ἀμαθὴς τις ἱεὺς θεὸς, ὃ δίκαιος οὐκ ἔστι. Dan. 34. ἐπεὶ δὲ τὸν θεὸν εἰσέποι' ἰδίξατο. Ubi ne quis anapæstum se in tertio loco invenisse putet, monendus est θεὸς esse monosyllabon. Quod in cæteris casibus sæpissime fit; in nominativo et accusativo singulari non raro. Veteres Attici hanc vocem libenter in sermone contraxisse videntur; nomina enim a θεὸς incipientia pronunciarunt, Θεωγεῖδες, Θεουκλῆς, Θεουκλίδης, Θεοφάνης, Θεόφραστος. θεός est monosyllabon in An-

* Præfat. ad Hecubam, p. vii. We cannot but express our surprise, that Dr. Seale, in the 3d edition of his Analysis of the Greek Metres, lately published, should not have availed himself of the information contained in the passage here referred to.

+ In Brodæus' edit. of Gr. Epig. p. 588.

From. 1262. Sup. 333. Bacch. 47. 1347. Ion. 440. *Θωδ. Troad. 953.*
Bacch. 67. 1294. 1298. Ion 1636. In Electr. 300 *ἄσπετος* est spondeeus.

485. πρὸς τὸδε σοφίας τίς ἂν ἀγῶν ἦκοι πέρι ;

499. αὐτὸς κακίως μητρί' ἐγένετο πταίνων.

The editor has eminently shown his critical sagacity, in restoring to these verses their long lost metre. We reluctantly refer our readers to the notes, which must fully convince them of the necessity and propriety of the emendations adopted in the text,

552. *ἱμαυτὸν, ἢ λίγην*
κακῶς ἱμαυτῶν, ἰξιδῶ.

This appears to us a passage in which even an intelligent youth might fairly expect assistance from an editor. The learned need not to be told, that the sense requires *κακῶς* to be expressed before *ἱμαυτῶν*, as well as before *ἰξιδῶν*. But, though the learned may be happy in acknowledging their obligations to the editor for his work, it is not for their use solely, or even principally, that the edition is intended.

At 561, also occurs an expression, upon which perhaps some light is required to be thrown.

μαστοῖς τὸν ἑλκὸς θηράμεναι.

Musgrave, after Barnes, renders it *venantes misericordiam uberibus*, literally indeed, but obscurely. The allusion is to the supposed action of the mother, claiming pity by the breasts which he had sucked.

587. "Sed idem *κινῶ* pro *τυτῶ*, quod si unus Codex accederet, reciperem."

The Professor's caution not to alter the text, without the most urgent necessity, and the most cogent reasons, cannot be commended in terms of too high admiration. If he, whose judgment, acuteness, and learning, claim almost an implicit deference to his suggestions, yet never ventures to alter or add one letter to his text, but upon the strongest grounds; how ought those, who in these essentials are very far his inferiors, to shrink from offering violence to an ancient author, because they may not comprehend his meaning, or fancy that they can improve upon his expressions? Thus, 339, 340, "Sic Aldus, quem, licet mendosum, secutus sum, potius quam æque mendosum pro mendoso substituiam." Again, in v. 1580, though he is justly dissatisfied with the text, he confines a very probable conjecture to the notes; at v. 1259, his modesty and caution are still more conspicuous: the text is evidently deficient in metrical accuracy; yet it is suffered to stand, though the editor's

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acutenefs supplies a correction, which truly deserves the name of "palmaria emendatio." The text is as follows ;

ἐκείθεν ἐνθάδ' εἶτ' ἐπ' ἄλλην σκοπιάν.

Upon this the present editor has this admirable note :

" Sic plerique MSS. In antistrophico ὧς pro ἡ solus K. idque ex interpolatione, quam et alibi in hac fabula passus est. Debebat igitur hic versus esse iambelegus ; quod ut fiat, audaciorem fortasse conjecturam periclitabor. Aldus habet ἀπ' pro ἐπ' A. αἱ, τὰ π' pro εἶτ' εἶτ', J. αἷν pro ἄλλην. Lego igitur, παλινσκοπιάν, quod compositum, licet ipsius exemplum nusquam invenerim, ejusdem est generis cujus ἀλυσκοπιά, ἱεροσκοπιά, et forsitan alia. Neque durior est junctura, quam in παλινσκοπιῇ et παλινσκοιος, quæ usurpant Æschylus et Sophocles. Si hanc conjecturam probas, verte, *Dispicite illinc huc deinde in contrariam partem.*"

614. As specimens of this editor's exquisite knowledge of Greek construction, and his complete qualification for the task he has undertaken, we cannot withhold from our readers the following curious and accurate remarks.

Μανίλας, σοὶ δὲ τὰδε λίγω, δράσω τὸ πρῶτον.

" Sic, opinor, Aldus et omnes codices, nisi quod membranz omittunt δὲ, pro quo conjecit Musgravius δὲ, et recepit Brunckius. Adeo ille huic particulæ iratus est, ut eam fere ab Oreste expulerit. Cum subito sermonem ad alium ab alio convertimus, primo nomen ponimus, deinde pronomen, deinde particulam. Hæc formula cum ab omnibus poetis sit tritissima, pauca quædam tantum exempla apponam. I. Sophocl. Electr. 150. Νιδέα, σὶ δ' ἔγωγε ἴμεν θάνατον. Ibi ex unis membranis σὶ, σ' f. edidit Brunckius, quæ pronominis geminatio, si nunquam apud Tragicos occurrit, occurrit certe perraro. II. CEd. Tyr. 1096. ἰδὲ Φοῖβε, σοὶ δὲ ταῦτ' ἀγίστ' ἔγωγε. Sic omnes MSS. sed Brunckius post ἰδὲ addidit σοὶ. Deinde ut metra quadrarent, 1095. τυράννοις in τυράνποισιν, 1109. αἷς in αἰσιν mutavit. Τίδων ἄς' εἶ, ἔπραξας δὲ ξυλουργικά. Res una litera abjecta poterat expediri : lege in antistrophicis : Νυμφῶν Ἑλικονίδων, Αἷς πλείεστα συμπάσσει. Eadem ipsa metri species apparet Electr. 486-7. 502-3. III. Philoctet. 1362. καὶ σὺν δ' ἔγωγε θανυμάσας ἔχον τὰδε. Conjunctiones istas in eodem sententiz membro haud credo occurrere apud istius ævi scriptores, nisi per librariorum errores ; et legendum, πᾶσι, σὺν δ' ἔγωγε, ut subito ad Neoptolemum orationem convertat Philoctetes. In Aj. 1409. Πᾶσι, σὺ δὲ πᾶσι γ', ὅσον ἰσχύεις, habet καὶ pro καὶ Scholiorum editio Romana. IV. Infra 1690. Ὀρίσθαι, σὺ δὲ παῖδ' ἰγὼν κατεγγυῶ, cui ipse Brunckius, eade, ut videtur, satoratus, pepercit. Hac observatione fretus ἰ μακαρίτης Tyrwhittus Scriptoris de Lapidibus versum 268 egrege restituit ; Λυχνί, σὺ δ' ἐκ πεδίου εὐθις τ' ἀπέρρη χαλάζαν, Ἡμετέρων, καὶ κῆρας.

659. τί χεὶρ φίλων ; Sic disertè citat Thomas Magister in v. χεῖρ, addens ἵστί δὲ τῷ ποικιλιῶν. Ego vero hac primo transmutata, quæ annos abhinc plus minus quindecim in Anglica Brunckiani Antiphras

trophanis censura scripti. (*H. Maty's Review*, July, 1783, p. 66) "Accurate plerumque Aristophanes sententiarum suarum partes alteram alteri respondere facit, ut Av. 1419. ὁδὶ πάρεστιν· ἀλλ' ὅτου χρὴ, δὲ λίγων Περσῶν, πτερῶν δαί. In priorē versu legi debere ὅτου δαί, χρὴ λίγων, clarum est non solum ex apodofi, sed ex eo, quod apud Atticos poetas genitivum nunquam regit χρὴ. Unicum, quod obduci posse credo, exemplum, exstat Euripid. *Orest.* 667. (ed. Musgrav. sc.) Sed et illud in τί δαί φίλων mutandum auctoritate Plutarchi Op. Mor. p. 68. E. Aristotelis *Ethic.* ix. 9." Et quod Aristophanem attinet, anno 1794, codicis Ravennatis collationem edidit Invernizius, quæ istam emendationem confirmavit. Ipse tandem τί δαί φίλων invenit in MS. quem voco L."

To cite all the passages in which the editor has united consummate judgment with profound erudition would be nearly to transcribe the annotations entire. We must content ourselves with referring particularly to the notes on vv. 5, 837, 837. 891, 909, 1018, 1234, 1427*, 1645, 1662-3, 1679.

It is difficult not to be infected with the itch of conjecture in reviewing such a work as this, though we can scarcely hope to catch the glimpse of an improvement that has escaped the penetrating eye of the present editor. But in v. 690, we cannot but suspect that κάλων, not χαλῶν, is the true reading. Musgrave seems to translate the passage, as if the metaphor of *fire* were still pursued; but we join with the Paraphrast, in considering the allusion as borrowed from the effects of *wind*. ἀπὸ μεταφορῆς τῶν πνευμάτων. As the passage stands at present, both χαλῶν and ἐντίκοντι are used in a strange, independent way. The proposed alteration will give to ἐκλείουσι a case which it now wants, and it will exhibit an expression suitable to the context, and in some degree authorized by another passage in Euripides:

ἰχθῆρι γὰρ ἐξιδῶσι πάντα δὴ κάλων. *Med.* 282.

In conformity with our practice, of suggesting whatever appears to us conducive to the improvement of any valuable work, which falls under our notice, we must remark, that there are still some passages in which the editor's acuteness and learning might have been employed with great advantage. Thus, in v. 894, the sense of ἐπαγχαστῆρος might have been explained, or Musgrave's conjecture noticed; an elucidation of vv. 901-6, would have been highly desirable; and of many parts of the succeeding chorus. Μυρτίλου φῶσι, v. 984, might have been paralleled with Ἐκῶσι πῶμα, v. 1194, and as ἀρμόττιος, v. 1379,

* In this note, a remark of Mr. Wakefield, on v. 53 of the *Hecuba*, is silently obviated.

is not sufficiently explained in the common Lexicons*, the origin and meaning of the term might have occupied the space of a note, with benefit to the younger students. The foregoing remark applies also to vv. 27, 32, 328, 599, 916, 1619.

The very learned and ingenious editor will not suspect us of making these observations with any view of detracting from the merits of his admirable edition. What he has done, is truly excellent; but we wish him to do more, because we wish his performance to be as extensively useful as possible. In general, we are anxious that every edition of an ancient author should be so complete, as to supersede the necessity of having recourse to other editions: and if the Professor would reflect a little more upon the immense disparity between his own attainments and those of the generality of his readers, he might perhaps be induced to employ a little time in elucidating phrases, which, though familiar to him, may still be considerably out of the beaten track; and in briefly resolving constructions, or explaining usages, which, though not of a nature to give him any trouble, yet may occasion perplexity, even to those who are by no means novices in this walk of literature.

This play is enriched by the collation of some fresh MSS. and improved by the insertion (in the running title) of the corresponding number of lines in Musgrave's edition.

ART. XI. *A System of Dissections, Part II. Containing the Anatomy and the Diseases of the Thorax; with Plates. By Charles Bell. Folio. 40 pp. 5s. Johnson. 1798.*

WE closed our account of the first part of this ingenious work by observing, that the author had given no intimation of the number of parts it would contain. We are still left in the dark as to this circumstance, which it is probable

* As this is a curious and unusual word, we shall endeavour to supply this deficiency from H. Stephens. ἀρμάτιον μάλα inde dictum, quod caneretur vel in Hectorem curru raptatum, vel in matrem deum curru a Phrygiis circumduci solitam, vel in nubentes virgines quas isidem curru antiqui vebant. (unde et πάροχοι dicebantur) Vel ἐν τοῦ συντόνου καὶ ἰσπανομήνου δρόμου τῶν ἀρμάτων: Vel ab Harmateo inventore. At ἀρμάτιον φέρον apud eundem Eurip. dictū esse λέξι καὶ λυσίη. Plutar. de fort. Alexand. Ἀρταγιδου παρὶ τῶν ἀρμάτων αὐλοῦστος κρη. Sic apud Suidam ἀρμάτιον τρέχει, et Eurip. ἀρμάτιον γέροντας. Tom. i, p. 586. See more in the Scholiast on the passage, whom Stephens in part copies.

the author is not able to determine. While he continues however to execute it in the masterly manner that distinguishes this and the preceding part, he need be under no apprehension that the sale of the work will be diminished on that account; as there are few persons, we apprehend, who are engaged in the practice of surgery, or who cultivate the study of anatomy, but will wish to be possessed of it.

The present number contains the anatomy and diseases of the thorax. It is embellished with five plates, so contrived as to give the most complete view of the parts contained in the cavity of the thorax that we remember to have seen. The plates, as we observed of the first number, are executed in a clear, neat, and elegant style.

The plan the author has followed in dissecting these parts, is explained in the following short Introduction.

"Keeping in view," he says, "the general plan which was at first laid down, the present subject shall be divided in such a way, that each branch of it may be comprehended in one dissection or view of the parts, as they lie in the dead body: and those points of the anatomy shall be chiefly dwelt upon which are useful in dissection, or in understanding the local or organic diseases. The first dissection of the thorax naturally includes the muscles and blood vessels which lie upon the breast and lower part of the neck; then proceeding to the viscera, the appearance of the heart, lungs, and mediastinum, upon lifting the sternum, makes the second division; next the manner of displaying the heart is to be explained; afterwards the injection of the heart, with the dissection of the great vessels proceeding from it; and the dissection of the nerves of the neck, and of the thorax, closes these several views of the anatomy of the thorax. Lastly, the morbid anatomy of the breast will solicit attention; first, aneurisms, and the diseases of the heart and larger vessels, with the circumstances which are to be observed in the dissection of those diseases; and, secondly, the diseased appearances of the lungs, of the pleura, and of the cavity of the chest in general. It may, however, be proper further to observe in this place, that in explaining the situation of the heart and great vessels, and the play of the lungs, it is impossible to overlook the deficiencies in the accounts that are given of the mechanical action of the heart and vascular system, and of the effect of respiration, upon the action of the heart, or rather of the manner in which its effects upon the heart and veins is counteracted. And it surely will not be thought too great a departure from the plan and limits of this book, to touch slightly upon these important points; they are points susceptible of such clear explanation, that they must be considered rather as hitherto neglected than as misunderstood."

Of the author's talent for description, in which we think he excels, the following is given as a specimen.

"In dissecting above the clavicle, and in carrying back the flap of skin from the side of the neck, in the angle between the sterno-cleido-mastoides

mastoides muscle and the trapezius, the fat will be found in most subjects loose and watery, and of a granulated appearance, especially in young subjects. This confused fatty mass must not be taken away rudely, for under it lie many important parts. The external jugular vein will be found close by the outer edge of the mastoid muscle; and passing under the clavicle at the angle formed with it by the origin of the mastoid muscle, to join the subclavian vein; a considerable artery (the transversalis colli) a branch of the lower thyroid will be observed, sending its branches all over the side of the neck, and round under the trapezius muscle. Betwixt this artery and the root of the external jugular vein, the omo-hyoideus muscle will be seen passing obliquely upwards to the os hyoides, a long and flat muscle; and as it goes under the mastoid muscle, it may be seen degenerating into a middle tendinous part. Under this muscle, again, and from betwixt the origins of the scaleni muscles, the cervical nerves are seen descending to form the axillary plexus. The small lymphatic glands, the glandulæ concatenatæ, may be observed lying upon the side of the neck. And farther, it may be observed, that the small nerve which passes backwards over the mastoid muscle, and which lies close to the muscle, and under the branches of the external jugular vein, is the nervus accessorius, which comes out from the skull in union with the eighth pair. Lower down, behind the mastoid muscle, and lying upon the scaleni muscles, there is found a delicate nerve, resulting from the cervical nerves; and this is the phrenic or diaphragmatic nerve, which should be carefully preserved for the demonstration of the nerves of the thorax. It will be immediately understood how this part of the root of the neck, and just over the clavicle, forms the most deadly aim of the assassin; for his knife passes at once into the breast, and pierces the great vessels near the heart."

From the description of the parts contained in the thorax, and of their mode of action, the author proceeds to give an account of the diseases to which they are liable. On the formation of aneurism, one of the most frequent diseases of the arterial system, he is full and satisfactory. Speaking of the diseases of the pericardium, he observes,

"It sometimes becomes so thick as to be easily separated into layers like the coats of arteries, though in a lesser degree. And although we should not," he says, "suppose such membranous surfaces as the pericardium liable to such a disease, it has been found studded over with white schirrous tumours containing pus. Matter is also sometimes found upon the surface of the heart; for it is subject to ulceration. I have seen it," he adds, "irregular and foul with disease, and covered with a viscid matter; so that it seemed wonderful that life could have been supported. In such cases the lungs are usually found adhering to the pericardium, and the pericardium to the heart."

Through the whole we meet with much curious and useful information.

ART. XII. *Memoirs of the Life and Administration of Sir Robert Walpole, &c. By W. Coxe, Rector of Bemerton*, &c.*

(Concluded from our last, Page 223.)

THAT a life of this nature, containing so much political reference, and involving so many questions important to our government and constitution, should be written with care and fidelity, must be regarded as a matter of public moment; and, from a diligent perusal of these Memoirs, we are inclined to pronounce that Mr. Coxe has executed this voluntary trust in a manner which does him honour. Though desirous, as is natural, to defend the subject of his narrative, where he can be defended, he does not suffer his partiality to amount to bigotry. Nor does he think it necessary to put the worst construction on every act of the opposers of his hero, but, on the contrary, defends Mr. Pulteney, in particular, from imputations very commonly urged against him, after his first popularity had declined. The Life of Sir Robert Walpole is in itself instructive. Nothing can show more fully with what complete injustice a popular clamour may be raised against a minister, who acts sincerely, and with excellent judgment, for the public good; or how practicable it is by general accusations to create an odium, which cannot possibly be justified by actual proofs. A stronger instance of successful misrepresentation cannot easily be given than the affair of *Wood's patent* in Ireland, which, by the writings of Swift, is generally known in one light only; but is, at the same time, rendered a matter involving a kind of classical interest. The true history of this business we shall therefore give, on the faith, and in the words of the present author.

“ The year 1725 teemed with events of the highest importance to the interest and security of England, both in regard to foreign and domestic affairs, and gave sufficient employment to the cabinet. The foreign affairs were distinguished by the celebrated treaties of Vienna and Hanover; the domestic tranquillity was interrupted by disturbances in Ireland, arising from Wood's patent of coinage, and tumults in Scotland, both of which were suppressed by the prudence and vigour of Walpole.

* By a singular oversight it stood, in our last number, *Bemerton*. We should mention also, that Mr. Coxe found the word *verbis*, in his motto, in the Delphin Edition; and considers the passage as more applicable to his purpose with that addition.

" No minister ever suffered more abuse for the indiscretion and violence of others, than Sir Robert Walpole. The tumults in Scotland, on account of the duty on malt, and the disturbances in Ireland, relating to Wood's patent, because they happened under his administration, were solely attributed to his misconduct; whereas the duty on malt was carried in the house of commons by the country gentlemen, in opposition to his sentiments; and the grant of Wood's patent, was an unfortunate legacy left by the earl of Sunderland, in which he had no other share than in passing it when he was at the head of the treasury.

" To judge by the accounts generally given of that transaction, it would appear a monster of despotism and fraud, that the halfpence were deficient in weight and goodness, and that the circulation of them would have been followed by the total ruin of Ireland.

" In fact, the inimitable humour of Swift, which places the kingdom on one side, and William Wood on the other, has misled our judgment, and captivated our imagination; and most persons have formed their opinion from his Drapier's Letters and satirical poems, rather than from the authentic documents or well attested facts. The simple narrative of this transaction, stripped of the exaggerated dross in which the malignant wit of the author has invested it, is reduced to a short compass.

" There being great deficiency of copper currency in Ireland, the king, in virtue of his prerogative, granted to William Wood a patent for coining farthings and halfpence, to the value of £.100,000 sterling, on certain terms which the patentee was bound to follow. William Wood, who in the party language of Swift is ridiculed under the denomination of a *hardware man* and a *low mechanic*, was a great proprietor and renter of iron works in England. He had a lease of all the mines on the crown lands in thirty-nine counties, was proprietor of several iron and copper works, and carried on, to a very considerable amount, manufactures for the different preparations of those metals*. Among many proposals submitted to government, that which he delivered was accepted, and was considered by all persons of judgment or capacity, not biased by party or national prejudice, as beneficial to Ireland.

" But the natives did not see it in so favourable a light, and before the money was circulated, a general ferment was excited. The sensible causes of complaint were derived from the consideration, that the king had treated Ireland as a dependent kingdom, that the patent was granted to a person who was not a native, that the coin was stamped in England, and that as a great profit was likely to be derived, the benefit should have principally accrued to the public. All the attempts of the duke of Grafton, then lord lieutenant, to subvert the public aversion were ineffectual. The spirit of opposition seized all orders of men, and even many of the king's servants, who held the chief places under his administration.

* Anderfon's Commerce, vol. iii, p. 124.

† See Primate Boulter's Letters.

" Inflamed by national zeal, the two houses passed addresses to the crown, accusing the patentee of fraud and deceit, asserting that the terms of the patent were infringed both in the quantity and quality of the coin, that the circulation of the halfpence would be highly prejudicial to the revenue, destructive of the commerce, and of most dangerous consequence to the rights and properties of the subjects: the commons, with an absurdity and effrontery hardly credible, declared, that even had the terms of the patent been complied with, the nation would have suffered a loss at least of *one hundred and fifty per cent.* and indeed the whole clamour rested on partial or ignorant representations. It was not at that time expected or dwelt on as a matter of speculative propriety, that the weight of the copper coin should be adequate to its circulating value; and the assertion that Wood had carried on notorious frauds and deceits in the coinage, as advanced by Swift, and that the intrinsic was not equal to one eighth of the nominal value, was proved to be false by an assay made at the mint, under sir Isaac Newton, and his two associates, men of no less honour than capacity, the result of which was, that in weight, goodness, and fineness, it rather exceeded than fell short of the conditions of the patent.

" But the clamour, however unjust, was raised, and became general; and it was a necessary act of prudence, not to increase the ferment by forcing upon a nation what was considered as unjust and fraudulent. Lord Carteret, who succeeded the duke of Grafton in the office of lord lieutenant, failed no less than his predecessor, in all his endeavours to obtain the introduction of the copper money. The patent was surrendered, and tranquillity restored. Wood, as an indemnification for the loss he had sustained, received pensions to the amount of £.3000 a year for eight years*.

" Such is the public history of Wood's patent; and it is difficult to conceive by what means, or by what intrigues, this simple transaction, calculated for the benefit of Ireland, and in which not a single right was infringed, or a single grievance inflicted, could be so misunderstood and perverted, as to create a general ferment, and nearly to overthrow the administration of Townshend and Walpole. The secret history of this event, which the documents, under my inspection, enable me to give, will assist in tracing the motives and causes which gave rise to the disturbances, and finally occasioned the surrender of the patent.

" The emoluments arising from the disposal of the patent for supplying Ireland with copper coin, were given by Sunderland to the duchess of Kendal, who sold it to Wood. Sunderland had warmly recommended it to his friend, the duke of Bolton, who was at that time lord lieutenant; but he met with so much difficulty in his attempts to countenance and support the project under hand, that he had neither courage or inclination to propose a scheme which he foresaw would greatly embarrass his administration. On his death, the duke of Grafton was promoted to that high office, at the recommendation

* "Correspondence."

of Walpole; he consented to bring it forward, and was promised the support of the king's friends in Ireland.

"Walpole, on succeeding Sunderland at the head of the treasury, instantly saw and appreciated the difficulties in which this transaction would involve him; and with as much frankness as his situation at that time would permit, remonstrated against the grant, as likely to become unpopular; but being unwilling to offend the duchess of Kendal, the extent of whose influence over the king he had unfortunately experienced, reluctantly submitted to what he could not prevent, and employed every means in his power to remedy the abuses and obviate the difficulties. He took the advice of the attorney and solicitor general, obtained the ratification of the lord chancellor of England, and by proper assays at the mint, secured the execution of the terms stipulated by the patent, which at length passed the usual forms, and was sent to the lord lieutenant for the purpose of being put into execution.

"When the duke of Grafton returned to Ireland in August 1723, things were in a state very different from that in which they had been erroneously represented to him by the English cabinet. He found a ferment rising in the nation; a general aversion to the patent; and a most decided opposition from those who, as he had reason to believe, had promised their warmest support. The character and conduct of the duke of Grafton were not calculated to conciliate parties, or to restore union and harmony in a country like Ireland, distracted with troubles, and abounding with persons disaffected to the English government. He was a nobleman of high honour and disinterested probity; but proud and imperious, fretful and choleric, and highly conscious of his dignified situation. Though by no means deficient in abilities, yet he did not possess sufficient skill and address to guide the helm of state in a difficult period: he was well characterised by his friend, Walpole, as a *fair weather pilot, that did not know how to act when the first storm arose.*

"The success of the measure was principally impeded by the unexpected and inflexible opposition of lord chancellor Midleton, who has, on that account, incurred the bitter reproaches of Walpole, Townshend, and the duke of Grafton, in their correspondence with each other. Upon a candid review of his conduct, however, it appears that he was actuated by no improper motives, but, in common with many other persons in Ireland, considered the plan, [as] imprudently introduced, and inimical to the true interests of the country. The private letters which passed between him, his brother, and son, and which I am enabled to lay before the public, will afford a clear explanation of his motives; and a comparison of them with those of the two ministers, and of the duke of Grafton, relieve the characters of each party from much of that obloquy which flowed from the rage of discordant politics." Vol. i, p. 215.

Such is the introduction to Mr. Coxe's history of this singular business; the whole account is too long for insertion in this place. Another instance in which artful misrepresentation was equally successful, nearer home, is that of the *Excise Scheme*; with respect to which, though undoubtedly calculated
for

for public benefit, Sir Robert thought it necessary to yield to popular clamour. The history of this event, with proper illustrations, is clearly and ably given in the 41st Chapter. The characters of eminent persons, occasionally introduced to enliven and elucidate these Memoirs, are drawn in general with perspicuity and judgment. Among the most remarkable are those of Atterbury, in Chap. 23; of Lord Bolingbroke and Lord Oxford, in Chap. 25; Ripperda, Chap. 35; Mr. Pulteney, Chap. 39, &c. and Queen Caroline. The chief features of that amiable Queen are generally traced in Chap. 31; but at her death her character shines forth with such peculiar lustre, that we cannot refuse ourselves the pleasure of copying a picture so truly exemplary.

" I shall close the transactions of the year 1737, with the illness and death of queen Caroline, an event highly disastrous to the country, to the king, and to sir Robert Walpole*. This illustrious and amiable woman, had been for some time in a declining state of health. The disorder under which she had laboured, and which occasioned her death, was a rupture, which, from motives of delicacy, she had communicated only to the mistress of the robes, her favourite lady Sundon: she was so imprudent as to conceal the cause of her illness from the medical men who were called in to her relief. This false delicacy, which was incompatible with her usual magnanimity, was the cause of her death. For the medicines which were administered, and the methods taken, were diametrically opposite to those which would have been adopted, had her disorder been known. Judging from the symptoms, and from her own declarations, the physicians treated it as a gout in her stomach, and administered strong cordials, which aggravated the malady. When the danger became so imminent as to render the concealment impossible, it was too late. She submitted in vain to the most painful operations, and the surgeon who performed them declared, that if he had been acquainted with her real situation two days sooner, her speedy recovery would have been the consequence†.

" Although racked with extreme agony, almost without intermission, during twelve days and nights, she bore her sufferings not only with patience and resignation, but almost without a groan, maintaining, to the last moment of her dissolution, serenity, temper, dignity, greatness of soul, and an unaffected submission to the ways of Providence. In all this melancholy scene, she behaved with such invariable courtesy to every one about her, that one of the physicians observed, he had never met with a similar instance in the whole course of his practice. She repeatedly expressed to her attendants, her grateful sense of their laborious watchings, and distinguished each of them with appropriate marks of regard.

* Rather an odd anticlimax. *Rev.*

† " Letter from Charles Ford to Swift, November 22, 1737. Swift's Works."

"She recommended her servants, in the most affecting and solemn manner, to the king's favour and protection; extended her concern to the lowest of them, and was equally warm in her solicitude for their welfare; recounting to him the faithfulness of their respective services.

"This firmness and resignation were not the effect of insensibility or stoical indifference, but derived from the strongest exertions of reason and religion. On the second day of her illness, she was observed to shed some tears, occasioned either by the lowness of her spirits, the anguish of her sufferings, or by tenderness for the despair of her family; she soon, however, recovered from this debility, and resumed her accustomed fortitude. Apprehensive that during a painful operation, she had so far forgotten herself as to use peevish expressions, she reproached herself with having shewn an unbecoming impatience.

"She frequently declared that she had made it the business of her life to discharge her religious and social duties; she hoped God would pardon her infirmities, and accept the sincerity of her endeavours, which were always intended to promote the king's honour, and the prosperity of the nation. She declared that she was a hearty well-wisher to the liberties of the people; and that if she had erred in any part of her public conduct, it arose from want of judgment, not from intention.

"A little before she died, she said to the physician, "How long can this last?" and on his answering, "Your majesty will soon be eased of your pains;" she replied, "The sooner the better." She then repeated a prayer of her own composing, in which there was such a flow of natural eloquence, as demonstrated the vigour of a great and good mind. When her speech began to falter, and she seemed expiring, she desired to be raised up in her bed, and fearing that nature would not hold out long enough without artificial supports, she called to have water sprinkled on her, and a little after desired it might be repeated. She then, with the greatest composure and presence of mind, requested her weeping relations to "kneel down and pray for her." Whilst they were reading some prayers, she exclaimed, "pray aloud, that I may hear;" and after the Lord's prayer was concluded, in which she joined as well as she could, she said, "So," and waving her hand, lay down and expired*.

"Having already discussed the character of the queen, I shall only add a few traits to the preceding sketch. She was blessed with a natural serenity and calmness of mind, and often expressed her thankfulness to God, that he had given her a temper which was not easily ruffled, and which enabled her to support every difficulty. It was truly said of her, that the same softness of behaviour and command of herself, that appeared in the drawing-room, went along with her into her private apartments, gladdened every body that was about her person, accompanied her as well in the gay and cheerful seasons of life,

* "The principal circumstances of her death, are extracted from Dr. Alured Clarke's *Essay towards the Character of Queen Caroline*.

† "Chapter 31."

as under the most trying circumstances, and did not fail her even in the hour of death itself.

"One part of her conduct, which reflects the highest honour on her memory, was her maternal attention to her children, and particularly to her daughters. She superintended their education, directed their behaviour, formed their manners, and tempered her reproofs with a mixture of proper severity and kindness, which rendered her equally beloved and respected.

"The enemies of queen Caroline, have represented her as being of an unforgiving temper, and even reproached her with a want of maternal affection. It was suggested, that she fomented the misunderstanding between the king and the prince of Wales, but on the contrary, she exerted her utmost influence to abate the petulance of the son, and the irritability of the father. Once in particular, when an action of the prince had been represented to the king with malicious aggravation, the queen defended her son, and good naturedly observed, 'Ce n'est qu'une indiscretion de page.' 'Tis nothing but a youthful frolic*. The tongue of slander has even reproached her with maintaining her implacability to the hour of death, and refusing her pardon to the prince, who had humbly requested to receive her blessing. To this imputation, Chesterfield alludes in a copy of verses, circulated at the time :

'And unforgiving, unforgiven dies.'

"Pope also has consigned to posterity this aspersions, in terms of malignant irony :

'Or teach the melancholy muse to mourn,
Hang the sad verse on CAROLINA'S urn,
And hail her passage to the realms of rest,
All parts perform'd, and ALL her children blest.'

* "From lord Orford.

† "See Epilogue to the Satires, Dialogue, 1. l. 79. 'The satirist, with a duplicity not unusual to him, has affected in a note to repair the insult offered to her memory, by observing, that her last moments manifested the utmost courage and resolution. It is, however, justly observed by Dr. Warton, on this passage, that, "no subtle commentary can torture these words to mean any thing but the most poignant sarcasm on the behaviour of this great personage to her son on her death bed:" and adds, that, "about the same time, Pope wrote a couplet on the same subject:"

"Here lies, wrapt up in forty thousand towels,
The only proof that Caroline had bowels."

The evidence that Pope was the author of this infamous quibble, which is generally attributed to Chesterfield, is not given by Dr. Warton. Lord Mansfield had it from Pope himself, told it to lord Orford, from whom I received it, with a variation of "seven and twenty," instead of "forty thousand towels."

I am

I am happy to have it in my power to remove this stigma from the memory of this great princess. She sent her blessing and a message of forgiveness to her son, and told Sir Robert Walpole, that she would have seen him with pleasure, but prudence forbade the interview, as it might embarrass and irritate the king*.

" Her charities were limited only by her revenue; though she avoided all appearance of ostentation so much, that many persons who subsisted by her bounty, were wholly ignorant of their benefactress; and she was so liberal that her public and private lists, with the occasional sums expended on the same account, amounted to near a fifth part of her whole incomet." P. 547.

It is now time that we should close our account of the volume of Memoirs, which, though large, cannot in many parts prove uninteresting to the English reader. The labour of the compilation must have been prodigious; and the care employed throughout to support the narrative by all attainable documents, is truly exemplary. Far be it from us to attempt, by any captious objections, to depreciate a work which must have cost an able man so many hours of study and fatigue, and of which the unvaried tendency is directed to the public benefit.

To the two volumes of original papers are prefixed, very properly, four plates, copied from autographs of illustrious persons; which form an interesting adjunct to such a collection. The papers themselves are classed in the order of time, with constant reference to the sources from which they were derived. That many of these are very curious and important cannot be doubted, after the recapitulation of the various great families from whose repositories they were obtained. There are however, in the third volume, some that hardly seem to deserve a place, particularly the letter at p. 600, &c. As a specimen of these papers, we cannot perhaps extract many parts that would be more generally thought worthy of attention, than the remarks of the Speaker, Onslow, on some of the principal personages of his time. From these we shall take his characters of Lord Bolingbroke and Carteret.

" There were two other persons, who in different ways contributed very much to the keeping up the fire of opposition to sir Robert Walpole's administration. The late lord Bolingbroke, and the lord Carteret, afterwards earl of Granville. But as I know not enough of them to be very particular in their characters, I shall only describe them as they were generally spoken of. They were universally esteemed of the greatest genius for parts and knowledge of any men of the age; the latter thought to be the better scholar, and to have formed his eloquence more upon the ancients, and to have more of their spirit in it,

* " From lord Orford.

† Character of Queen Caroline, p. 12.
than

than the former, but the first was far the better writer, and had been a very lively and able speaker in both houses of parliament. He was thought too to have more knowledge and skill in the affairs of Europe from his long experience abroad and intimacy there with men of the first rank for business and capacity. But neither of them were thought to know enough of the real temper and constitution of their own country, altho' lord Bolingbroke wrote much on that subject; they were both of them of unbounded spirit and ambition, impatient of restraint, contemning the notion of equality with others in business, and even disdaining to be any thing if not the first and highest in power. They were not famed for what is called personal courage, but in the conduct of affairs were deemed bold if not rash, and the lord Bolingbroke was of a temper to overturn kingdoms to make way for himself and his talents to govern the world; whilst the other in projecting the plans of his administration, thought much more of raising a great name to himself all over Europe, and having that continued by historians to all posterity, than of any present domestic popularity or renown whatsoever. He thought consulting the interior interests and disposition of the people, the conduct of business in parliaments, and the methods of raising money for the execution even of his own designs, was a work below his applications, and to be left as underparts of government to the care of inferior and subordinate understandings, in subserviency however to his will and measures. But much of this perhaps was owing more to his never having been of the house of commons, than even to the natural height of his spirit, altho' the last had but too well formed him for those disregards. They were both, I believe, very incorrupt as to money. It was not their aim to aggrandize themselves that way. Lord Carteret was all glory even to the enthusiasm of it, and that made him rather more scrupulous than the other in the means he used for his greatness. But lord Bolingbroke's was merely power, and to be the leader of it, without any other gratification but what the present enjoyment of it might give him, in a word they were both made rather for the splendor of great monarchies, than the sober counsels of a free state, whose liberty is its chief concern. Although upon the whole, lord Carteret seem'd the better man, and a much safer minister than the other.

“ With these talents and temper, it will not be wondered at, that they should be enemies to sir Robert Walpole, and he to them. But his apprehensions of what they might do against him, were not the same with regard to both, nor of the same sort with those he had of the other persons before-mentioned, because they were of the house of commons where he was, and where the chief scene of business lay, and if he got his affairs through that place, he was not very solicitous as to what might happen in the house of lords, where the party against him was very small, and a speech or two from lord Carteret, and from two or three more, was all he had to fear. But his apprehensions of hurt from lord Carteret lay another way. It was at court he feared him most, as the most likely person to supplant him with the king and queen, who disliked lord Carteret less than any of the others who carried on this opposition. For he had very early in his life applied himself to the affairs of Germany and the northern courts, he had been a minister at one of them, and had made many connections of acquaintance
and

and intimacy with the persons that came from that part of the world hither, and especially with the Hanoverian ministers (none of whom ever loved sir Robert Walpole) by whose means he had some communications with the queen, if not the king, and they at least had no unfavourable opinion of him; and when he did come into power, upon the removal of sir Robert Walpole, had more of the king's favour and opinion than any of the other ministers, partly for the reasons before mentioned, but chiefly, that his politics made very much for the interests of Hanover, which he always laboured to unite with those of his country.

"But lord Bolingbroke did not molest sir Robert Walpole in this way. He had no hopes of coming into business and power, under the present king at least, but by forcing his passage to it, and making, as he thought, even the king's safety to depend upon it. He had by his almost weekly writings, in which he was very able, so irritated and inflamed the nation (who eagerly read his invectives) against sir Robert Walpole and the measures of the government, in which he often personally involved the king and queen, that at sometimes, there was too much reason to fear the rage he had wrought the body of the people up to, might have produced the most desperate attempts. But he meant not that, I believe (whatever has been the suspicion) but only to terrify the king into a change of his ministry, and for himself to be thereby restored to his honours, which would, as he always flattered himself, soon put him at the head of affairs. And seasons there were in the course of this opposition, that if it had succeeded, might possibly have procured him a restitution of his peerage (his estate was given him by parliament before) though by what has fallen out since, one may doubt even of that." Vol. ii, p. 567.

The lights thrown by this work upon a long administration, so much and so ignorantly censured, as that of Sir Robert Walpole, will, we trust, induce our countrymen in future to receive with somewhat less of credulity the accounts of party writers, whether they are dictated by personal animosity at the time, or by a fixed and determined disposition afterwards to vilify and degrade, by all possible means, the regular employment of power under the constitutional authority of the crown; to represent the House of Commons as corrupted; and to raise a clamour for such innovations in that branch of the legislature as would lead directly to democracy. To such attempts Mr. Coxe's Memoirs appear to us to afford a strong and rational counterbalance; and we therefore gladly point them out to the attention and patronage of the friends of real liberty, as established in our excellent constitution, and there alone established.

ART. XIII. *Sermons on important Subjects. By David Lamont, D. D. Minister of Kirkpatrick, Durham, and One of the Chaplains to the Prince of Wales, for Scotland. Volume the Third. 8vo. 522 pp. 7s. Cadell and Davies. 1797.*

THE design of Sermons (when they do not turn upon intricate questions of Theology) being that of general utility; the style and phraseology should be carefully kept down, in order that it may fall strictly within the comprehension of the ordinary reader. This observation is not at the same time designed to discourage those just and natural ornaments of style which engage and keep alive the reader's attention, without escaping or even satiating his apprehension. Different subjects demand different modes of expression; and a cultivated mind will find no difficulty in deciding upon the most judicious manner of dressing out those sentiments, which are intended to persuade and convince, in order that they may improve and reform.

We think that, in general, the writer before us has been, in the present volume, too anxious to adorn his style. On some very familiar topics he indulges occasionally in a vein of rhetoric, which, to say the least of it, is perfectly misplaced. His figures of speech are generally crowded with too great luxuriance; and tropes and metaphors are permitted to banish that chasteness and simplicity which are the true ornaments of language. We cannot but think that passages like the following are very distant from the grave and simple character of the pulpit. Speaking of *the right of private judgment*, the author thus proceeds:

"Fetter this right, and you extinguish it; extinguish this right, and you annihilate religion. For if once liberty of judgment be destroyed, Religion, which is the offspring of that liberty, cannot exist even in its shadow. Where Liberty lives, there Religion lives; where Liberty dies, there Religion dies; and in the grave where Liberty is laid, there is Religion buried." *Serm. 7.*

Having thus expressed the objections which we have to the style and manner of this author, we must also do him the justice (which we most readily do) to say, that his discourses are by no means destitute of sound and just sentiments upon many points of morality. We shall present our readers with an extract from the sermon upon the Love of God, in which the author will be seen to more advantage.

"Let

" Let a religious man and an atheist try the same experiment, and their friendship will terminate in the same conclusion. The train of the religious man's contemplations and affections will lead him frequently, with deep admiration and gratitude, to converse on the amiable character of God, the blessings he derives from the Divine Providence, the pleasures he enjoys in the practice of virtue, and the hope which he entertains of a blessed immortality. The atheist, again, who regards all this as *the floating bubble* of an ignorant and shallow brain, will be perpetually laughing at the chimerical notions of a God, and a Providence; and, in the dress of ridicule, will be holding up the fiction of virtue, and the phantom of futurity. Surely, no man, who has any respect to his own judgment, will say, that between persons of such opposite principles a real friendship can ever take place; or, that these men can ever enjoy their favourite pleasures, till breaking asunder those external bands which kept them together, the one feels himself at liberty, without the insolent scoffs of atheism, to pursue the paths and the pleasures of religion; and the other, without the grave rebukes of religion, to pursue the frolics and the follies of atheism.

" Upon the same principle I am warranted to maintain, that, between a benevolent God and a malevolent man, no degree of sincere and solid friendship can exist. God, who made the world for no end but to make it happy, incessantly employs his wisdom, his power, and all the glorious attributes which adorn his nature, to promote the happiness of the world; and, in the contemplation of universal felicity, and of his own infinite and eternal goodness as the unceasing cause of it, he takes infinite complacency in his works, and in himself. The malevolent man, on the contrary, who feels no inclination to promote the general good, but who enjoys a kind of malignant satisfaction in beholding the misery of mankind—whose envy makes him hate the excellence he cannot reach—whose resentment makes him thirst for the blood of his adversary—and whose severity of disposition makes him a foe to the interests of humanity—wantonly exerts his utmost powers to censure the deserving, injure the innocent, insult the oppressed, and scatter the seeds of misery into the hearts of those whom God had formed for the enjoyment of happiness. Now, is it possible to suppose, that between God and such a man any shadow of love or friendship can subsist? Is it not evident to every comprehension, that there is between them such an essential and eternal opposition, that, in the law of nature, light may as soon have fellowship with darkness, as, in the law of religion, a benevolent God can have fellowship with a malevolent man? God cannot dwell in the malevolent man, because, as far as his abilities enable him, he counteracts the plans of the Divine benevolence, and defaces the beauty of the rational creation. The malevolent man cannot dwell in God, because he feels not the influence of that mercy which is the darling attribute of the Creator, and he repines at the sight of that happiness which every perfection of the Deity interests itself to advance.

" This induction of observations and examples cannot fail, I should think, to convince us, that it is only a merciful and benevolent man that can enjoy a serene and solid friendship with a merciful and bene-

volent

volent God; and a man of this description lives, and cannot but live, in the highest and sublimest friendship with God. In proportion to the inferior perfections of his nature, the benevolent man feels the same sentiments, breathes the same wishes, acts from the same motives, pursues the same plans, and labours to promote the same ends that God himself does. He is ambitious, in his sphere, to destroy every source of evil and pain, and is *a worker together with God* in advancing the good of the creation. To give bread to the hungry, and drink to him that is a-thirst—to pour the balm of comfort into the heart that is broken with sorrow, and to wipe away the falling tear from the eye of grief—to treat the stranger with a generous hospitality, and to direct the wandering traveller to the path of safety—to protect the innocent from the arts of the seducer, and to draw unassuming merit from the shade of oblivion—to *convert the sinner from the error of his way*, and to train up human souls for glory, immortality, and God—are the sublime and important objects to which the affections of his heart are devoted, and from which he derives the chief sources of his joy. In one word, from motives of universal love he labours to promote universal happiness; and, in proportion as his labours are successful, and as he sees the world virtuous and happy, he tastes those pure and perfect pleasures which spring from a happy mixture of the selfish and sympathetic affections. He contemplates with pleasure the happiness of the world around him, and feels a conscious delight within himself when he reflects, that, according to the best of his abilities, he has studied, in conjunction with God, to promote the general happiness." P. 333.

At the close of the volume are also some Discourses upon Scripture Characters, in which the author delivers himself with much soundness of observation, though not with uniform propriety of expression. "An *internal inflammation* is destroying peace of mind;" though applied to Haman, is turgid, without either force or beauty. But we forbear to select any further instances of similar faults. The author's general powers entitle him to our respect; and when he is led astray, it is manifestly not by defect of understanding, but by an injudicious ambition, into which perhaps he might be led by having it suggested, on former occasions, that his discourses were too plain. The mind to which luxuriant ornament is not natural, will usually attempt it awkwardly. The first volume of these Sermons appeared in 1780; the second in 1787. Both long before our undertaking commenced,

ART. XIV. *Comments on the Plays of Beaumont and Fletcher, with an Appendix, containing some further Observations on Shakspeare, extended to the late Editions of Malone and Steevens. By the Right Honourable J. Monck Mason. 8vo. 467 pp. 8s. Rivingtons. 1798.*

IT is undoubtedly, as the present annotator asserts, rather surprising, that amidst all the attention so justly paid to Shakspeare, these poets should have suffered such neglect, that of the last edition in 8vo. published near twenty years ago, many copies yet remain unfold. We shall be glad to co-operate with Mr. Mason in the endeavour to bring them into better notice. Mr. Monck Mason has long been known as a commentator on Shakspeare. His observations here alluded to in the title-page, were published in 1785, and many of them have been since admitted into subsequent editions of that poet.

As this annotator professes to have "no industry," it will hardly be fair to object to him, that he appears to set out without the proper apparatus for his business; since if he had more tools, perhaps, he would not bestow the pains of using them.— "The only ancient copy in my possession," he says, "is the second folio." This, however, is fair and laudable dealing. It informs the reader at once, that he is not to expect an elaborate collation and comparison of various editions; but only the conjectures of a critic, and the elucidations of a gentleman, long versed in the study of our ancient dramatic writers. By what he undertakes, therefore, we must in justice estimate his work, and not by what he might have done.

On the subject of conjectural criticism upon authors who wrote since the invention of printing, it is proper to remark generally, that the latitude allowed must be even smaller than in the case of the ancient writers. Of the few MSS. that remain of the classics, the authority can seldom be very highly rated, since they are all comparatively of late production, and every new transcriber might have introduced new errors. But a book printed and reprinted in the life of the author, can seldom be supposed to contain many very gross mistakes, that materially affect the sense, and are not of a nature that marks them at once for the blunders of a compositor, or the accidents of the press. In abatement of the force of this canon, it must be allowed, that our early poets were careless about their works, and did not very often superintend the printing of them. But, with all due allowance for this fact, it will always be advisable to try every

every effort at explanation, before we attempt to change a reading, in which all the early editions coincide.

Of Beaumont and Fletcher's plays, the first folio edition appeared in 1617; twenty-two years after the death of Fletcher, the longest survivor of the two poets. But many particular plays had been printed in quarto during his life, and some of them more than once. Several of these quartos are extant, and to be found in a few collections. Fletcher died in 1625. *Philaster* was printed in 1622, in a quarto now before us, which is called the second impression. *The Maid's Tragedy* was printed in the same year. *The Woman Hater* in 1607. *The Scornful Lady* in 1610. *Thierry and Theodoret* in 1621. The first folio contains thirty-five pieces. The second folio was published in 1676, and contains eighteen plays that were not in the former, which the editors printed carefully, as they tell us, from the quartos; or rather, to use their own words, took "the pains and care to collect and print out of 4to." The editors of this second edition, lay great claim to the praise of correctness. Their address to the reader begins thus:

"Courteous Reader,

"The first edition of these plays in this volume having found that acceptance as to give us encouragement to make a second impression, we were very desirous they might come forth as correct as might be, and we were very opportunely informed of a copy which an ingenious and worthy gentleman had taken the pains (or rather the pleasure) to read over; wherein he had all along corrected several faults (some very gross) which had crept in by the frequent imprinting of them. His corrections were the more to be valued, because he had an intimacy with both our authors, and had been a spectator of most of them, when they were acted in their life-time. This therefore we resolved to purchase at any rate; and accordingly with no small cost obtain'd it. From the same hand also we received several Prologues and Epilogues, with the songs appertaining to each play, which were not in the former edition, but are now inserted in their proper places."

Here then we have a kind of test to estimate the readings of these two folios. Where the second materially differs from the first, we may presume the alteration to have been made by the unknown intimate of the authors. The persons who vouch for this fact; are three booksellers; John Martyn, Henry Herringman, Richard Mariot. A proprietor of the first folio, on the other hand, Humphrey Moseley, professes to have had original manuscripts. His object was to print only such plays as had not been published before; and of these he says, "I had the original, from such as received them from the authors themselves; by those and none other I publish this edition." Many other curious circumstances are mentioned in this address of Humphrey Moseley, who seems to have been an intelligent

intelligent man, and to have taken due pains to have his edition correct. Among other things, he tells us this anecdote of Fletcher's autographs.

"Whatever I have scene of Mr. Fletcher's owne hand, is free from *interlining*, and his friends affirme he never writ any one thing twice: it seemes he had that rare felicity to prepare and perfect all first in his owne braine; to shape and attire his *Notions*, to adde or loppe off, before he committed one word to writing, and never touched pen till all was able to stand as firme and immutable as if engraven in brasse or marble."

Of errors of the press, Mosely speaks as a man who was confident of having done his best to avoid them, "*For literall errors* committed by the printer, 'tis the fashion to aske pardon, and as much in fashion to take no notice of him that asks it; but in this also I have done my endeavour." He professes also to have inserted every thing written by his authors, which had not been printed before, except the *Wildgoose Chase*.

"One Play I must except (for I meane to deale openly) 'tis a Comedy called the *Wild-goose Chase*, which hath beene long lost, and I feare irrecoverable; for a *person of Quality* borrowed it from the *actors* many yeares since, and (by the negligence of a servant) it was never returned; therefore I now put up this *fi quis*, that whosoever hereafter happily meetes with it, shall be thankfully satisfied if he please to send it home."

It does not augur very well for the accuracy of the second editors, that this very comedy appears in their volume, and is not marked with an asterisk, as they professed to do respecting those which had been wanting in the former collection. Nor is any notice given when or how it was recovered. It should seem then that the first folio, as far as it goes, is of better authority than the second: nor should we omit to remark, that the Dédication to the Earl of Pembroke is signed by ten actors, among whom are *John Lowin* and *William Allen*; and to that is subjoined an Address to the Reader, signed by *James Shirley*, himself an eminent dramatic writer..

We have been led insensibly into more detail than we intended, for the sake of estimating the comparative value of these two early folios. But it will all tend, we trust, to our aim, first mentioned, that of exciting attention to these poets. Among other matters, collectors may see that it is vain to look for any early quartos of the 35 pieces contained in the first folio*; since the editor positively affirms, that none there in-

serted

* The plays in the second folio, and not in the first, are, 1. The Maid's Tragedy. 2. Philaster. 3. King or no King. 4. The Scornful

ferred had been ever printed before. With this general clue before us, we shall proceed to make a few remarks on the remarks of Mr. Mason.

Generally speaking, this critic appears too fond of conjectural alterations, of which fault his very first observation affords a remarkable instance.

A lady, Sir,

That bears the light *above* her, and strikes dead
With flashes of her eyes.

This he proposes to change to

That bears the *light's* power;

a most violent and improbable alteration, without sufficient authority. Had it been in his power to recur to the quarto of 1622, he would have found the true reading perfectly satisfactory, without any necessity for conjecture :

A ladie, Sir,

That bears the light *about* her, and strikes dead
With flashes of her eye.

It may be observed also, that Mr. M. omits the *and*, in which he is not warranted by the octavo of 1750, or any prior edition. The "Codes, Codes," which Mr. M. conjectures very sagaciously to be a substitute for Gods! Gods! Messrs. Seward and Sympson, (those egregious editors) chose to omit entirely, without any notice. This is not good faith. What one editor does not understand, may and should be left for another to explain.

P. 15. "This beauty." It is being rather too scrupulous in grammar to suppose, that the poets, after saying *this beauty*, for the beauty of the ladies, might not subjoin *they*, meaning the ladies. Such involutions of construction are to be found even in pure classics.

P. 17. "Thy surges *lade* away." The restoration of "*laid away*" is very judicious, and the illustration very apposite. The improvements of Messrs. Seward and Sympson generally made things worse.

Scornful Lady. 5. The Elder Brother. 6. Wit without Money. 7. The Faithful Shepherdes. 8. Rule a Wife, and have a Wife. 9. Monsieur Thomas. 10. Rollo. 11. The Knights of the burning Pestle. 12. The Night Walker. 13. The Coronation. 14. Cupid's Revenge. 15. Two Noble Kinsmen. 16. Thierry and Theodoret. 17. The Woman Hater. And, 18. *The Wildgoose Chase*; of inferring which, the editors do not take the credit.

P. 22. "Between our *set* and us." *Set* means set, in the sense of company or party. Our *set* for our *setting*, is neither necessary nor allowable, since all the old editions contradict it. *Set* is used for set in King Lear.

And we'll wear out
In a wall'd prison, packs and *sets* of great ones
That ebb and flow by the moon. Act 5, sc. 3.

P. 24. *Evadne.* Aspatia take her part.

Dula. I will refuse it.

She will pluck down *afide*; she does not use it.

This is very happily corrected and illustrated. Mr. M. says,

"We should read, 'she will pluck down *a side*,' &c. The allusion is to a party at cards, and Dula refuses to take Aspatia for her partner, because, as she was not used to play, she would make her *side* the loser. So, in the Silent Woman, Centaure says of Epicoene,

Yes faith, Madam, Mavis and she will set up *a side*.

And in Massinger's unatural Combat, Belgarde says to Malefort,
and if now,

At this downright game, I may but hold your cards,
I'll not putt down *the side*."

To make this more completely satisfactory, it is supported by the old editions. Mr. M. is also perfectly right in his explanation of *to leave* for *to lose*, and to be *resolute* or to be *resolved*, for to be convinced. In these points he shows good judgment, and attentive reading. *Resolute* is further illustrated at p. 12 of his book.

The note on p. 54 is judicious, and classical: *inevitable* is certainly the right reading, and is that of the quarto of 1622. The quarto of 1619, cited by Theobald, we have not seen. The sense is, "not to be resisted." The passage taken from Tacitus, though admirably chosen for illustration, is most wretchedly printed. It should stand thus: "Sed Marcellum inſimulabat (Crispianus) ſiniſtros de Tiberio ſermones habuiſſe, inevitabile crimen, cum ex moribus Principis ſcediſſima quæque deligeret accuſator, obſectaretque reo." (c. 74). Besides being printed as verse, instead of prose*, there are nine or ten

* Mr. Mason's printer gives it thus:

Sed Marcellino inſimulabat Crispinus Sinistros de Tiberio
Sermonis habuisse; inevitabile crimen; cum ex moribus
principis,

Fœdissimis quæque deligeret accusator, obsecrare atque etc.

As almost incredible instance of blandering.

gross blunders in this short quotation, and of such a nature, as to make it perfect nonsense. We must add, that very absurd errors of the press abound throughout the book.

P. 84. The thing that we call honour bears us all
Headlong to sin, and yet itself is *nothing*;

Mr. Seward, in the full genius of his corrections, alters this to "yet itself is *not ont*." That is, into downright absurdity and flatness, instead of good sense and spirit. But what is most wonderful is, that Mr. Mason approves his conjecture, and says, that it is probably the true reading. If no ancient copies existed to give it the lie, surely common sense would do it sufficiently. Mr. S. after thus spoiling the passage, says in a rapture, "How beautiful is the sentiment; as the poets undoubtedly wrote it!" From such conjecturers, &c. &c.

To pass on to the remarks upon another play. In those upon Philaster, this passage is cited.

P. 120*. a garland lay by him
Of many several flowers, bred in the bay;

but the four last words are most unhappily explained. They mean, says Mr. M. "Woven in the garland—a bay means a garland—and bred is the participle of the verb to *brede*, not of *to breed*." Both interpretations are here wrong. A bay does not mean a garland, except of bays, perhaps, and *brede* or *bruid* never made *bred* for its participle. The meaning is simply, *born on the spot*; transferring the word *bay* from the sea-coast to the sweeping borders of a small fountain. Of the remarks on this play, not many more require to be noticed. Those that are explanatory are for the most part right; those that respect readings are not always so; but few of them are of any great moment.

We will now turn to one of the plays which are in the first folio, that we may have some opportunity of estimating the readings of a copy which promises so much accuracy.

P. 230. (vol. ii, ed. 1778.)

"Let him bear fix and fix, the more to blaze him.

"The allusion in this last line is both to the branches of a stag's horns, and to the terms of heraldry."

This interpretation is apparently correct.

P. 249. "That *takes* up all for you." Mr. M. says, "It is evident that we ought to read "that *rakes* up all." It is evi-

* These pages refer, we believe, to the 8vo. of 1778.

dent to us that the old reading is right, and the first folio confirms it. To *take up* was a term continually in use respecting money matters.

P. 256. "What can *you* say." The old reading is certainly "what can *I* say?" The proposal of giving these words to Henrique is certainly ingenious, but not necessary. Violante may very well say, "after stating the strong objections I have now mentioned, what can I say, *to your request?*"

P. 271. "A Maggot-pate," this is certainly the true reading, as Mr. M. maintains; but perhaps the words are intended as a parenthetical exclamation, "a whimsical dog!" meaning Diego. Otherwise it may mean a fellow that eats into mens brains by his artifices; if it must be referred to Bartolus.

P. 273. See where the *Sea* comes! how it *foams* and *bristles*!
The great Leviathan of the Law, how it *tumbles*!

This passage wants no alteration. We do not find in Symphon's edition, the proposal of *Seal* for *Sea*, but it is worthy of him. The *brustling* or *brittling* of the *Sea* is metaphorical, "the *Sea* sets up its back, as in a passion," and where can the great Leviathan tumble but in the sea? To call Bartolus first a *Seal* and then a Leviathan, in one sentence, would be strange enough. We should now say, "See where the storm comes."

P. 275. And still I push'd him on, *as he had been coming*.

"As he had bin *comming*," says the first folio. It is difficult certainly to make sense of this. But it is by no means difficult to be certain that Mr. Seward's alteration of it, to "as he'd been the woman," is impertinent nonsense. From the spelling of the word "*comming*," in the first folio, we had already conjectured "*conning*" before we read it in Mr. Mason's book; and the more we consider it, the more we think it probable. A person *conning* some lesson over in his head, is exactly in the state to want pushing along; and the mistake of *mm* for *nn*, is easy both in writing and printing.

P. 283. And with their several firts they've lighted dangerously.

The confirmation and explanation of this reading, are successfully given by Mr. Mason.

P. 286. "Will *endure* it easily." To change what is already good sense into something else, merely to introduce an old word, is a most unwarrantable stretch of critical licence. The proposal of *endue* for *endure*, answers no end whatever, but to display the critic's reading: and, after all, he confirms it by a passage which is itself doubtful.

We cannot bestow further time or space upon a work of this extent; to examine which completely, would require a volume nearly

nearly half its own size. The general cast and value of Mr. Mason's Comments, will be comprehended by the specimens we have produced; and the opinion we have already given. A critic, well versed in the writings of a certain period, may become, by means of memory, without additional labour, a good interpreter of them; but to venture upon conjectural amendments, without attempting to examine what is the full authority for the text as it stands, is usually mere waste of time; and exposes the critic to be refuted, as in some instances here adduced, by the first person who turns to an ancient copy. Still, however, we wish not to pass any censure upon the present commentator. If he who professes himself not fond of labour, has no objection to waste his trouble in conjectures, when he might go to authorities, the loss is principally his own. The other parts of his book will do him credit, and his authors some service: and where an emendation struck out by conjecture, happens to be confirmed by examination, the critic himself will feel pleased at a proof of sagacity, which all must allow to be valid and convincing.

The additional comments on Shakspeare extend only to 67 pages; and are employed chiefly to discuss the merits of emendations proposed by Messrs. Steevens and Malone. For the opinions of the former, this commentator seems to have, at least, *sufficient* deference.

ART. XV. *Arminius, a Tragedy.* By Arthur Murphy, Esq.
8vo. 101 pp. 2s. 6d. Wright, Piccadilly. 1798.

OF a Drama produced by a veteran Poet, whose successes in the Theatre we all have witnessed, it is natural to ask, why was it not exhibited upon the stage? In the opening of the Preface to *Arminius*, this question is not directly resolved; but, from what is there said, it may be collected that it was originally intended so to appear; but that the author, modestly judging the execution of his plan not to correspond with the zeal which prompted and commenced it, declined the attempt of introducing it to the Theatre; and determined merely to publish it for perusal. Though the effort is, undoubtedly, in many respects meritorious, we do not altogether condemn this decision of the author. Political plays, on either side of the question, produced upon the stage, tend rather to inflame

animosity than to convince the judgment; and parties are more likely to contend than to reason in a public theatre. In the hour of amusement parties should forget their contests, and let the angry passions subside; and though dramas should in general be so constituted, that their sentiments on politics, as well as morals, should be sound and useful, it is not desirable that they should be too directly pointed to existing differences and disputes. In other respects, we do not perceive that Arminius is too devoid of interest, or written with too careless a pen, to deserve the attention of an audience.

The publication of Arminius is every way commendable. The play, and its Preface, offer to the public the honourable suffrage of a man, whose age, studies, and talents, entitle his opinion to respect; and it is given decidedly in favour of that constitution, which, under Providence, from one of the smallest, has made us one of the most powerful, wealthy, respected, and happy nations in the world. That any among us should wish to destroy, and, under pretence of amending it, attempt to subvert a constitution so approved by infallible experience, is among the strongest proofs of human folly or perverseness. The cause undoubtedly is, that, of all sciences, politics is one of the most difficult. In no other branch of knowledge are superficial speculations more seducing, more delusive, more destructive. In none do they arise more frequently. The most difficult of studies, the knowledge of the human heart, is included in the science of politics. Hence is it that the young, the inexperienced, and the ignorant, are almost always wrong in political sentiments. They are deceived by false reports: they are misled by shallow opinions; they are hurried away by violent passions. Hence also it is that, among the writers of this time, the young* are frequently partizans of democracy; the veterans, unless indissolubly linked to some party, have traced its folly and destructive nature†. Amidst all the clamour for improvements in our system of representation (the most seducing pretence of the malevolent) we have long seen, that to infuse one particle more of democracy into our government, would be to destroy the balance, and subvert it. We ventured, in our own minds, to differ even from a House of Commons, on that point; and while the vote was passing, that the influence of the crown "had increased, was increasing, and ought to be diminished," we were most firmly of

* And females often.

† We may hope therefore, that, should the rising generation be at all tainted with democratic follies, as it grows older it will grow wiser.
opinion,

opinion, that "it had diminished, was diminishing, and required to be increased." Circumstances have since compelled the nation to avoid those innovations, which more tranquil times might perhaps have tempted them to try; and the constitution is therefore safe, and glorious.

In treating of a political drama, we could not deny ourselves the pleasure of sending forth a few political sentiments, which seem to us of high importance and utility. We now proceed to our work. The Preface is a short political tract, of 29 pages, containing a sketch of the author's opinions on the events of the last seven years, and of the principles within that time so much discussed. But though much is well stated, and the opinions of the author are generally sound, we must differ from him where he asserts, that the people of Rome had no *sovereign majesty*. Cicero says, "*Majestas est in imperii atque in nominis populi Romani dignitate.*" Also, "*Majestas est magnitudo quædam populi Romani in ejus potestate ac jure retinendæ.*" Cicero knew, however, to distinguish when the pretence of that majesty was misapplied, and directly condemned the employment of it to encourage popular sedition: for he says, expressly, "*quam (majestatem) minuit is qui per vim multitudinis rem ad seditionem vocavit.*" As we must resist false opinions, so we must not suffer even the most sound to be supported by mistaken positions.

The Tragedy itself is taken from Tacitus, with whose works Mr. Murphy's intimacy is so well known, and so much to his honour†. He traces the outlines of our constitution to the hardy tribes of Germany; and there finds, in the fate of Arminius, who so bravely resisted the Roman power, a strong warning against the treachery of Gauls, with many occasions for interweaving patriotic sentiments. Mr. Murphy has not forgotten his dramatic powers; the character of Velleda, wife to Arminius, is dignified and interesting; nor does the hero himself claim in vain the sympathy of the reader.

The first words of Velleda are sentiments of Liberty; and, be it always remembered, that, to defend the British Constitution is to defend LIBERTY. No wonder then that both objects are united in this piece.

"Think you a heart like mine, a German heart,
That without liberty deems life a burthen,
Think you a mind so form'd will bear to live
A day, an hour in execrable bondage?
Is that the comfort Rome affords the wretched?"

* Oratoriz Partitiones, c. 30.

† See our first volume, p. 358.

And can the charms of luxury and vice,
 Can warmer suns, and soft Italian seasons
 Lull to repose a mind upon the rack?
 Infuse a base oblivion of my friends,
 And my lost husband? In our boisterous clime
 Fair liberty can soften all our cares.
 "Midst forests, rocks, and fens, and hills of ice,
 It is our sun : It gilds the horizon round." P. 17.

Her patriotism is no less exemplary.

" Our country is our parent : 'tis to her
 Our love, our duty, all our faculties,
 Our wealth, our pow'r, our very lives are due.
 She is the common mother of us all.
 To you she calls ; to you she lifts her hands ;
 She tears her hair ; implores you not to plunge
 A Roman javelin in her matron breast." P. 19.

Arminius, after the bravest exertions against the Romans, is slain in his own camp by a poisoned arrow, shot by a treacherous Gaul. At the moment of death, by the prescriptive right of poetical fiction, he becomes prophetic.

" ARMINIUS.

Raise me once again : Now, mark my words ;
 Should the ambition of aspiring Rome
 Muster her legions ; should her arms prevail,
 And leave no spot where freedom can reside ;
 Bear to my Saxon friends my last advice.
 Let them embark for Britain ; there they'll find
 A brave, a hardy race, who by their valour
 Made Cæsar from their coast unfurl his sails,
 And save his legions by inglorious flight.

INGUOMER.

Your orders shall be faithfully perform'd.

ARMINIUS.

Yet more ;—when landed on that happy shore,
 Let my friends join in union with the natives.
 Britons and Saxons there may form one people ;
 And from the woods of Germany import
 A form of government, a plan of laws
 Wise, just, and equitable ; laws of force
 To guard the gen'ral weal, and on the base
 Of public liberty, of social order,
 And equal justice, raise the noblest fabric
 Of civil union like their own proud cliffs
 "Midst wild commotions still to stand unshaken,
 And be in time the envy of the world." P. 87.

As death approaches still nearer, his view of futurity becomes more particular, and concludes with the following just and well-

well-turned panegyric, to which every honest heart in Britain will vibrate in unison.

“ Thus ling’ring on the margin of both worlds,
A ray of light perhaps breaks in upon me.
—A time may come, when Germany shall send
A royal race, allied to Britain’s kings,
To reign in glory o’er a willing people.
—I see the radiant æra dawn; I see
The great event, when in a distant age
A monarch sprung from that illustrious line
Shall guide the state, give energy to laws,
And guard the rights of man; his throne encircled,
Adorn’d, illumin’d by a train of virtues,
That win all hearts, and arm each honest hand
In the great cause of freedom, and the laws,
For which their ancestors in ev’ry age
Toil’d, fought, and bravely conquer’d; then bequeath’d
Seal’d with their blood a glorious legacy,
A SACRED TRUST to all succeeding times.” P. 88.

We will not undertake to say that the interest of this drama is sufficient altogether to support it on the stage, were there no other reasons for with-holding it; but it is an honourable effort of the author, and has given us various kinds of pleasure in perusal.

ART. XVI. *Remarks on the Signs of the Times.* By Edward King, Esq. F. R. S. A. S. 4to. 40 pp. 2s. 6d. Nicol. 1798.

FEW men have had such encouragement as Mr. King, to proceed in the attempt to apply obscure and difficult prophecies. Very early in the year 1788, he published his book, entitled, *Morsels of Criticism*; in which, after giving his reasons for supposing that we were then living “under the *sixth* vial, in the *West*; and under the effects of the *sixth* trumpet, still prevailing in the *East*, and throughout the world,” he proceeded to prepare his readers for the coincident periods of the *seventh* vial, and the *seventh* trumpet, as then immediately impending. To feel the full force of his conjectures, it must be recollected, that in 1788, the great characteristics of the present calamitous times, had not yet developed themselves; yet his words seem to point as exactly to them, as if he had known what would ensue. “That there should be a dreadful subversion of all good government and order; and that men should

should be let loose upon each other in defiance of all civil power, and just rule, and of legal restraint." Morfels, p. 461. His words that follow are no less remarkable, and seem to prove, that even he did not regard the predicted evils as so immediately impending. "It will be happy for those who shall live *some years hence*, if they can prove me guilty of mistake in this point. I speak and write with cautious reverence and fear: acknowledging I am liable to error, and may be mistaken; and by no means pretending to prophecy." This reverential awe and caution are highly honourable to the writer; and they are, if possible, still heightened in the present tract, which may be considered as the sequel to those passages of his former works.

From what has since happened, Mr. K. conceives the *seventh vial* to have been poured out about the year 1788. He has waited and seen those very signs take place, which he then expected without knowing their approach. He begins with the 18th verse, chap. xvi, of the Revelations; the effects of pouring out *the seventh vial* into the air, which is announced in the preceding verse. We cannot but regard as rather fanciful, the explanation of the *fourth vial* being poured upon the Sun, from the solar system being then discovered; and that of the *seventh* being poured into the air, from the "New discoveries with regard to fixed Air, and the strange and novel invention of the Air-Balloon." Nor are we more convinced that Mr. K. has struck out the true interpretation of *voices, thunders, and lightnings*; which we should rather interpret of alarming and terrible events, than of new *informations, discoveries, and opinions*. The great earthquake in the same verse (18) is appositely and justly applied to great and extensive political convulsions. But from the interpretation of v. 19, we must again dissent. Though *πολις* certainly means a state, Poland is not of sufficient consequence to be styled *ἡ πόλις ἡ μεγάλη*, which cannot properly be rendered "a state that was great;" but, "the great state." Nor is it true that Poland was *great*, before the tripartite division, which tempted the commentator to that interpretation. The event there prefigured, has therefore not yet happened, or the true application is hitherto undiscovered. "The cities of the nations sell," is undoubtedly at this moment applicable to very many states. With equal precision is the fall of "the great Babylon," in the same verse, applied to the fall of Rome, *which actually has happened*. This great event, by calculating from the year 538, when *Belisarius* put an end to the dominion of the Goths at Rome, Mr. K. makes to fall exactly on the year 1798, as the end of the period of 1260 years, foretold by Daniel and other prophets. These coincidences, which are also otherwise illustrated, are surely remarkable:

markable : and Mr. K. here makes a solemn pause, as in his former commentaries, at the period actually supposed to have arrived : and he pauses with a fervent prayer for his country.

The remainder of this tract tends to show, what other writers have also supposed, that the latter days are approaching. But here the author speaks with exemplary caution and piety.

" We approach unto the latter days! I tremble whilst I write! God forbid I should mislead any. But if I do apprehend right, I must,—I ought, to speak, and write with circumspection, *that* which I apprehend. I am no rash enthusiast. I desire to be exceedingly guarded against error ; and I have not the least presumptuous idea of pretending to prophecy. The word of prophecy is sealed for ever." P. 23.

The idea which he offers after this solemn preparation is chiefly this, that the " Restoration of the Jews," which is prophesied to happen before THE END shall arrive, *may* take place *before* their conversion.

Fully are we aware that the interpretation of prophecies, not yet fully accomplished, has been often made, by deligning persons, an instrument of mischief. From the interpretations of Mr. King, nothing of this kind can be apprehended. They will produce no wild enthusiasm. They may lead fools to scoff : but they will induce the wise and pious at least to ponder with awe, upon the sacred words of prophecy ; and, in times the most extraordinary that the world has ever seen, to stand prepared for all that *may* come to pass, without presuming to pronounce what will.

The remarks of Mr. King in his former work, the *Morsels of Criticism*, have been so honourably noticed, and in words so admirably selected, by a very ingenious writer, that we cannot better prove our respect for his endeavours than by citing what that author has said.

" Thus did this very learned and most pious man, in a strain of serious, temperate, and impressive eloquence, deliver his opinion and his interpretation. They will stand before us and our posterity, as the memorial of that lonely wisdom, that reverential application of the divine word, and of that silent dignity which can *only* be attained by a retirement (at intervals) from the world which God hath made to HIM alone, and by that worship, in spirit and in truth, which, when joined to human erudition, and to the sober cultivation of the understanding, will produce fruit unto life*."

* Pursuits of Literature, p. 409, 7th edition.

The conclusion of the present publication is occupied by observations on some passages of the second book of *Esdra*s, which the author considers as a book of authority and authenticity. The strong objections to it are, that there is no sufficient evidence that it ever existed in Hebrew; nor was it ever admitted into the Hebrew Canon. Under these circumstances there is but too much reason to suspect that its apparent anticipations of the words of the Gospels, or the passages, which, on the supposition of its authenticity, must have been taken from it by the evangelical writers, were in fact taken by the compilers of this book from the New Testament. It cannot be denied that there is much in it very pious and instructive, and strongly in the manner of the ancient prophets; but new arguments must be produced before we can consider it as the work of *Ezra* himself, or any inspired author. The heads of all that have hitherto been said against or for it, may be found very ably collected by Mr. Gray, in his most useful and meritorious *Key to the Old Testament*.*

BRITISH CATALOGUE

POETRY.

ART. 17. *Rising Castle, with other Poems.* By George Gordon. 8vo. 151 pp. 3s. 6d. The Bookellers, Lynn; Robinsons, London, &c. 1798.

Young men, of nineteen, are so often worse engaged than in writing verses, that we are unwilling to discourage their attempts in this way; especially, if versifying be not made a serious occupation, but (as we hear in this case) only a relaxation from the labour of professional studies and pursuits. Without venturing, therefore, to place Mr. G. high in the rank of poets; or to say that he is likely, by the vigour of his genius, ever to attain such a distinction; we may commend some of his verses (the *Maniac*, for instance, though amplified only from *Shakspeare's* "poor Barbara") as evincing sensibility; and all of them, as possessing good and laudable tendency. *The Inscription*

* Gray's *Key to the Old Testament*, p. 533-545; 1st edition.

for a Summer House we shall insert, as breathing sentiments of religion, peculiarly praise-worthy at nineteen.

"STRANGER! full well thou knowest that the world
Is full of trouble; and its busy scenes,
Awake no thoughts of happiness in him
Delighting in retirement.—*Here* the soul,
Lull'd by the tranquil placidness around,
May find repose, and sooth'd by genial peace,
Look up to God! nor buzzing hum of trade,
Disturbs the sweet serenity that reigns,
Nor the rude shouts of revelry and mirth,
Speaking "the vacant mind." Here thou may'st rest
Free from the sun-beams, and expand thy mind
With knowledge. When the shades of eve
With grey hues deep'ning, dim the village church,
Here thou may'st pause—and hearken the rude song
Of cow-boy hast'ning from the distant field,
Or the sweet music of the jetty bird,
Warbling her wild-notes to the fading sun.
Haply the tinkling of some sheep-cote bell,
Or shepherd whistling o'er the neighb'ring heath
Will break upon thine ear. Yet thou may'st rest
Free from the bickerings of care-ting'd life,
And whilst surveying *Nature's* beauteous charms
Trace *Him*—the all-creating *God*, and bless
The mighty *Ruler* of all things below!" P. 96.

We should, however, have advised an exhibition of these Poems in general, in manuscript only, to friendly readers; rather than an appeal, by printing, to the judgment of a neutral public: and we venture to predict, that within a few years, the author will be a convert to our opinion.

ART. 18. *Suicide rejected, an Elegy.* By Charles James, Author of "Poems, dedicated, with Permission, to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales," and of several political Tracts. To which is prefixed, a Moral Discourse against Suicide (never before published) by the late Rev. Dr. J. Fordyce. The Whole addressed to Lady James, with a Poetical Introduction. Published for the Benefit of Mrs. Clark (the Daughter of the late unfortunate Colonel Frederick) and her Children. 4to. Hookham and Carpenter. 1797.

The horrid and desperate practice of suicide has lately met with so many advocates, and unfortunately for mankind is become so common, that, in our opinion, every man who attempts to check its progress deserves well of society. This publication has likewise another claim to favour; the motive is charity; which, combined with its own merit, will, we hope, prove a sufficient recommendation. The moral discourse of Dr. Fordyce, which the author modestly offers as the bulwark of the whole, is well and feelingly written; the Elegy

itself is a pleasing composition; and the poetical Dedication to Lady James, is a just tribute of praise to philanthropy and benevolence.

ART. 19. *The Villain's Death-Bed; or the Times: a Poem. Dedicated to whom it may concern.* 4to. 2s. 6d. Joseph Bell. 1798.

It is an unfortunate circumstance, that men with the best intentions, frequently make themselves appear ridiculous, from the exertions occasioned by their zeal. This author imagined that the *amor patriæ*, and his deep-rooted hatred of French liberty, must have produced something poetical; but, unhappily for himself, he has mistaken his powers.

ART. 20. *Public Spirit: a Lyric Poem, occasioned by the exemplary Zeal, Resolution, and Decorum, uniformly manifested by the Yeomanry Corps of Ireland, in the sacred Cause of their King and Country. To which are prefixed, an Address to the Right Hon. Thomas Pelham, and Observations on the Irregular Ode. Second Edition.* 8vo. 1s. Kelly, Dublin. 1797.

The address which is prefixed to this poem, well deserves the serious notice of every reader. Had it been published separately, we think it would have experienced a more general circulation. We wish the author had been as fortunate in his Observations, as in his production of the Irregular Ode; but truth obliges us to say, that we were much disappointed; as, after our perusal of the Address, we had flattered ourselves with having it in our power to commend the whole production as equally deserving.

ART. 21. *Matriculation. A Poem.* 4to. 1s. 6d. Cadell and Davies. 1798.

This poem gives a facetious account of the perils to which a young man is exposed on his first entrance at the University, from *Rowes* of various kinds. *Row* is a local expression, which being interpreted, means *Riot*. The verses are spirited enough; and the description of the boxing match has some merit.

DRAMATIC.

ART. 22. *Stella; translated from the German of M. Goethe, Author of the Sorrows of Werter, &c. &c.* 8vo. 2s. Hookham and Carpenter. 1798.

Whatever degree of credit may be given to the assertion of a modern author, that the Germans, have, for the last thirty years, in literature, and in genius also, surpassed every other country in Europe; yet the want of morality in their works of fancy, will, we hope, always prove an obstacle both to our imitation and approbation of them. Whatever exclusive merit they may claim in the fertility of invention,

yet the use they make of that superiority (particularly in their plays) is so exceptionable, and their conclusions approach so near the confines of vice, that it seems to be the general rule of their drama, to invert the order of nature, and render virtue subservient to vice. We ought therefore to be doubly armed against the impressions that the fascination of their imagery and singular simplicity of language may produce in us, as these beauties in general appeal so closely to the passions, that our feelings are worked up to the highest pitch before we are sensible that our compassion has been excited for an object worthy only of horror and detestation. Stella is a strong proof of these assertions; the hero of the piece, Ferdinand, leaves a wife and daughter, for no other reason than because he imagines them fetters to his liberty. In the course of his ramble he becomes acquainted with Stella, persuades her to elope with him, and leave a fond uncle, splendid fortune, &c. He then informs her that there is an inseparable barrier to their union; for this, however, the fascinated fair one luckily frames every excuse that the delirium of love can suggest: feeling, however, some qualms of conscience for forsaking his wife, and probably tired of Stella, he quits her as abruptly as he had done Cecilia; and, after wandering in search of her and his daughter for three years, he unexpectedly meets with them at an inn, where the latter is preparing to offer herself as companion to his former mistress; they are, however, not known to each other till he has returned to Stella, and is in the height of his dalliance. Finding it impossible that their happiness can be complete any other way, and to prevent Ferdinand from the crime of suicide, they all agree to live together. What more destructive to the peace of society; what more adapted to burst asunder every solemn tie, can be presented to the world, we know not. Instead of Ferdinand's being made an example, to excite abhorrence for his villainy, in having seduced a beautiful creature from her friends, and left a wife and daughter to encounter the frowns of the world, and the bitter lot of poverty we behold him arriving at what seems the height of his wishes, without having suffered more than momentary grief. The prominent faults and absurdities of this play were most happily ridiculed and exposed in the *Anti-Jacobin Newspaper*, by means of a mock drama, entitled "*The Double Arrangement*." See the 30th and 31st numbers of that very witty and useful publication.

ART. 23. *Reform'd in Time. A Comic Opera. In Two Acts. As perform'd at the Theatre-Royal, Covent-Garden.* 8vo. 1s. Cadell and Davies. 1798.

This Opera appeared first at a benefit, and was generally and eagerly applauded. The drama has sufficient contrivance and interest for a drama of that kind; the music is good; and some of the acting, particularly that of Mr. Munden (whom the author also compliments in a short Advertisement) remarkably excellent. How, with all these good qualities and attractions, the public should grow weary of it after a very few representations, is more than we can conjecture: but there is a caprice in these matters, as well as many others, which is not perfectly amenable to the laws of criticism.

ART.

NOVELS.

- ART. 24. *Sadaski, or the Wandering Penitent.* By Thomas Bellamy, Author of *Miscellanies in Prose and Verse, &c. &c. &c.* In Two Volumes. 8vo. 7s. Symonds, &c. 1798.

They who delight in oriental fictions and wonders, may turn over these pages with amusement, and even with some degree of instruction. The innocence and happiness of Sadaski and Elmira in their first humble abode, and the miseries which soon flowed from their ambition; the great trials of Sadaski's virtue, and his unshaken constancy under them; the horrid deaths of the besotted Prince, and of the vicious and furious Kaphira and Selima; and the final triumph and exaltation of the hero and his faithful consort;—all these incidents afford salutary and instructive lessons. The style, also, in which they are narrated, is very superior to that of most productions of this sort. In one instance, the author's fancy outstrips his memory; namely in the re-killing of the infamous Mithranes. At p. 37 of Vol. II. he expires by the dagger of Selima, as she herself assures us. And again, at p. 140, (according to another narration) he dies by the bowstring.

- ART. 25. *Henry Wicloughby. A Novel, Two Volumes.* 12mo. 6s. Kearsley. 1798.

This novel is written with no contemptible skill, or knowledge of the world. We think the abuses noticed, as existing on board our men of war, are considerably overcharged; and this is not the only defect of the kind that deserves censure. There are various exaggerations and misrepresentations of the conduct of the higher orders of the community, of the ministers of religion, and of religion itself. The descriptions of the West Indies are evidently delineated by one who has been an eye-witness; and the publication will be read by many with considerable satisfaction.

- ART. 26. *Milistina, or the Double Interest. A Novel. In Two Vols.* 8vo. 12mo. 1s. 6d. Low. 1797.

As a composition, this is by no means ill written; but it is entitled to no considerable praise for its invention or contrivances.

- ART. 27. *The Knights, or Sketches of the Heroic Age. A Romance. Three Volumes.* 12mo. 10s. 6d. Ogilvy. 1797.

This is an entertaining performance, and obviously written by a person well acquainted with the state of literature and manners in the middle centuries. The sketch of the manner of knighthood's being conferred, and the duties of knights, at the conclusion of the third volume, is neat and satisfactory. Our notice of this agreeable work has been delayed by accident.

MEDICINE.

MEDICINE.

ART. 28. *Observations on the Conduct of the War, in an Appeal to the People of Great Britain, on the State of Medicine in England, and of military medical Arrangements in the Army and Navy. By John Millar, M. D.* 4to. 130 pp. 8s. London. 1798.

A long while since, this author communicated to his Majesty's Ministers, plans for arrangements in the medical departments of the army and navy, and for the improvement of the practice of medicine; with the arguments or reasons, on which his plans were founded, and the experiments by which the utility of them had been verified and confirmed. But his plans, he says, were rejected, and no offers made to remunerate him for the immense labour and expence he had been at, in bringing them to perfection.

Of the utility of his plans and improvements, the author appears to entertain a very high opinion, even so far, as to imagine, that the events of the war depended very much on their adoption or rejection. Finding he was not able to rouse the attention of the government of this country, in the year 1788, that is in the beginning of the revolution, and while this kingdom was in peace and amity with France, the author communicated his plans to the ministers of that country. At first, he says, they were favourably received, but at length by the machinations of Mirabeau and others, the order for translating and publishing them was revoked. Copies however of them, or directions from them, were, it should seem, given to their Generals; as to adopting the regulations contained in them, the author thinks, the advantages their armies have had over all the rest of the soldiers in Europe, and the extensive conquests they have made, are to be principally attributed. To this cause the author in a particular manner attributes the success of Buonaparte, whom he dignifies with the title of the modern Alexander. "For France," he says, p. 10, "being thus, (that is by the possession of his plans) exclusively possessed of the means of preserving the military forces, Italy, proverbially, in all former ages, the grave of the French armies, became, under a better administration, by the skillful conduct of the modern Alexander, the triumphal theatre of her most splendid victories." But we have had abundant reason to see and lament, that the French are far from trusting for their success to the power of their arms, they know that much more certain dependence may be placed in the efficacy of seduction and corruption. Before they attempt to attack or invade a country, they constantly endeavour to weaken it, by destroying the principles of the people, by instilling into their minds a mistrust or hatred of their rulers, by raising dissensions, and forming parties in *their* favour; which done, they become easy conquests. In this they have been too successful; and to this, and not to the power of their arms, they are indebted for their triumphs in Italy, and for their conquest of Switzerland; and on this they depended

for success in their intended descents in Ireland, and in this country; which would, it is to be feared, have been too successful, but for the vigilant care of those ministers, of whom the author speaks with so much asperity and indecency. Of the author's plans we can give no account, as they are not laid before the public. The remainder of the volume is made up of desultory and unconnected political reflections, and stories of the troubles and persecutions the author says he has suffered, but these are subjects that do not properly come under our notice.

ART. 29. *A Treatise on the Disorders of Childhood, and the Management of Infants from the Birth, adapted to Domestic Use.* By Muriel Underwood, M. D. Licentiate in Midwifery, of the Royal College of Physicians, London, Physician to her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, and Senior Physician to the British Lying-in Hospital. 3 vols. 12mo. 10s. 6d. Matthews, Strand. 1797.

The reception this little work has met with from the public has been so favourable, as to enable the author, in the space of a few years, to give three editions of it; and to each republication he has made considerable additions and improvements. It now forms three small volumes, and contains every thing on the subject that is known. The familiar and easy style in which it is written, and the clear and distinct account the author has given of the complaints of infants, with succinct and useful directions for the regulation of their diet, dress, exercise, &c. entitle it to the attention of parents, and of all persons having the care of children; while the number of diseases treated of in it, many of them not of frequent occurrence, and therefore not likely to be well known by persons not practising midwifery, give it an equal claim to the regard of the physician.

ART. 30. *A Justification of the Right of every well educated Physician of fair Character and mature Age, residing within the Jurisdiction of the College of Physicians of London, to be admitted a Fellow of that Corporation, if found competent on Examination, in Learning and Skill; together with an Account of the Proceedings of those Licentiates, who lately attempted to establish that Right; including the Pleadings of the Council, and the Opinions of the Judges, as taken in Short-Hand, by Mr. Gurney.* By Christopher Stanger, M. D. Grædam Professor of Physic, and Physician to the Foundling-Hospital. 8vo. 499 pp. 7s. 6d. Johnson. London. 1798.

Of this laboured work we have little to say; the most material articles contained in it, having been discussed by Dr. Ferris, in his account of the institution of the College of Physicians, of which we gave a very ample and detailed analysis in the seventh volume of our miscellany. A large part of the present volume, consists of the pleadings of the council, which we have no doubt are faithfully detailed, and the author's occasional comments, which do not seem to throw any new light on the question litigated. It seems sufficient to observe, that the four judges who were on the bench when the cause was decided, were unanimously

animously of opinion, that the bye-law of the College, the subject of complaint, was just and reasonable, and such as, by their charter, they were empowered to make. This, we trust, will finally close the contest.

We cannot however leave this article without observing, that the author has put his materials together with considerable adroitness, and exhibited marks of talents which we hope to see exerted on some subject which may prove profitable both to the public and himself.

DIVINITY.

- ART. 31. *The 109th Psalm explained and vindicated, in a Sermon preached in the Parish Churches of Boston and Wigtown, July 22, 1798. By Samuel Partridge, M. A. Vicar, Chaplain to the Right Hon. Lord Gwydir. 8vo. 24 pp. 1s. Kelsey, Boston; Rivingtons, London. 1798.*

We had occasion, in our fifth volume (p. 157) to examine, and to commend, a sermon by the late Rev. William Keate, on the subject of this psalm. Mr. Partridge adheres to the same interpretation supported by Mr. Keate, but carries his illustration further, traces the origin of this exposition to an earlier period, and more distinctly mentions the Italian commentator, by whom it was first advanced in that country. It was first offered, as now appears, by the Rev. Charles Peters, Rector of St. Mabyn's, Cornwall, in a sermon preached so long ago as 1748. *Mattei*, the Italian paraphrast of the Psalms, took it, as he acknowledges, from a commentator named *Marco Marino*. By the conspiring efforts of these various authors, it seems now fully ascertained that the imprecations in the 109th Psalm, are only recited by David, as uttered by his enemies against him. Some little difficulties that remained on the subject, after the laudable efforts of Mr. Keate, are by the present writer successfully removed; and his discourse is with great judgment so drawn up, as to be intelligible to an unlearned audience. Mr. P. with entire candour, gives all due credit to Mr. Keate and others, who have treated the same subject before him, and very properly acquits both him and Dr. Sykes of having seen the interpretation of Mr. Peters. The sermon at St. Mabyn's appeared in a volume published in 1776; but the notice of the time when it was first preached was taken from the author's manuscript. We have read Mr. Partridge's discourse with great pleasure.

- ART. 32. *The Beauties of Saurin; being select and interesting Passages extracted from the Sermons of that justly celebrated Divine, with Memoirs of his Life and Writings; and a Sermon on the Difficulties of the Christian Religion, never before translated. By the Rev. D. Rivers. Second Edition. 2s. 6d. Lee and Hurst. 1798.*

We never saw the first edition of this work, but the name of Saurin is sufficiently eminent to obtain a second edition of a judicious selection,

tion from his works, which this seems to be. The head prefixed is of very indifferent execution.

ART. 33. *The Lawfulness of defensive War, upon Christian Principles, impartially considered. By a Clergyman of the Church of England.* 12mo. 36 pp. 4d. Darton and Harvey. 1798.

What a variety of masks can treachery and treason put on, when it is no longer safe for them to appear without disguise! Under the semblance of strict piety, and universal philanthropy, this is a most insidious and mischievous performance. Its purpose seems to be, to discourage all religious persons from joining the present associations in defence of our country, pp. 26, 27, 30, 34. At p. 15, it is even plainly declared, that to prevent, by armaments, an *invasion*, "is committing a real and certain evil, in order to avoid that which is only supposed and uncertain." At p. 31, this question is put, "Suppose, that not only a man's life will be in danger, but the life also of his wife and children; can religion, can Christianity, forbid him to stand forth in their defence; and if necessity requires it, to slay the assailant?" Would any one, except a traitor, or an idiot, hesitate to answer, No!

If this tract be left to recommend itself to general notice by the strength of its arguments, it will prove very harmless; but if, as it seems probable, it be intended for private distribution among the defenders of the country, the case may be different.

ART. 34. *An Answer to some Passages in a Letter from the Bishop of Rochester to the Clergy (dated May 1, 1798) upon the Lawfulness of defensive War. By a Clergyman of the Church of England.* 8vo. 39 pp. 6d. Darton and Harvey. 1798.

We have here the same spirit, if not the very same hand at work, as in the preceding article, and the name of the author is here subjoined J. Bradley Rhys. Whether it be invidious design, or whether (as in this tract more strongly appears) the absurdity of blind fanaticism, which produces these tracts, their tendency is decidedly pernicious. To all such stuff, it is an irrefragable answer, that the soldiers are nowhere in the gospel commanded to quit their profession; but on the contrary, are specifically directed how to behave in it, which implies a complete permission to exercise that profession itself, as a lawful calling, compatible with religion, as well as with other duties. Observation also evinces that a good soldier or a good sailor, has usually a stronger spirit of religion than an ordinary man. The perils in which they are constantly involved, lead them perpetually to see the hand of Providence, and to rely on it. Witness, as among the first and best of instances, the conduct of our two gallant Admirals, Duncan and Nelson, in two of the greatest victories that the world has ever seen. Let declaiming fanatics remember, that the Lord of Hosts, is the God also of the Christian!

ART. 35. *The Duty of Thanksgiving for national Blessings; a Sermon, preached on Tuesday, December 19, 1797, being the Day appointed for a general Thanksgiving.* By William Mavor, LL. D. Vicar of Hurley, Berks; and Chaplain to the Right Honourable the Earl of Dumfries. 8vo. 25 pp. 1s. Fletcher and Co. Oxford; Rivingtons, &c. London. 1798.

"The object of this sermon (on Isa. xlii, 10) is, to unite us in gratitude to God, and attachment to our country," (p. 3). For this good purpose, a brief review is proposed of some of the distinguished blessings we possess, not only as men, but as a nation," (p. 9). The first of these topics extends but to a few lines; upon the other, the author copiously and vigorously insists. We find, indeed, some rhetorical flourishes, which do not exactly agree with our taste; as at p. 12, "Liberty, founded on order, *the bliss of blisses below*,—is founded on *the adamant column of reason*." Not to say, that here are *two* distinct foundations for the same thing; we question the propriety of *founding* any thing upon a *column*, which itself (as we conceive) requires a pretty stable foundation. But let us give a more favourable specimen; and one that may tend to counteract the mischief, which the tracts, noticed in our two preceding articles, seem *intended* to work. "Far be it from me, either in this place, or in my private capacity, to exult in any victory, except what is gained on purely defensive ground, or to invoke 'the God of battles' to support views of aggrandizement, even at the expense of our most inveterate foes. Aggressive war is so repugnant to the mild spirit of Christianity, that I cannot regard it without horror. I bewail its untimely victims;—I sigh for the desolation it occasions; but neither religion nor reason forbid us to be strenuous in protecting our own lives, rights, and properties, or in carrying that destruction to the coasts of our enemy, which he meditates to bring on *ours*. Self-defence is the first law of nature; and every law of unperverted nature, under the limitations which religion and society have established, becomes a sacred duty." P. 23.

ART. 36. *The Duty of Thanksgiving; a Sermon, preached at the Foundling-Hospital, December 19, 1797, being the Day appointed for a general Thanksgiving.* By the Rev. John Hewlett, B. D. Morning Preacher to the said Charity, and Lecturer of the united Parishes of St. Vedast and St. Michael le Quern. Published at the Request of the General Court, and for the Benefit of the Charity. 8vo. 22 pp. 1s. Johnson, &c. 1798.

The duty of thanksgiving to God, as well for "the common advantages and the ordinary enjoyments of life," as for "the extraordinary instances of divine mercy," is well insisted upon in this discourse upon Psalm cxxxvi, 26. We shall give a specimen, that will recommend this sermon (if we do not greatly miscalculate) to many of our readers. "Nor, from the wide circle of private enjoyments, which spring from 'the riches of divine goodness,' let us exclude the comforts of domestic life. Whatever pleasures or advantages a man meets with in his inter-

intercourse with the world, they must be casual and incidental. *How* is, with every one, the principal scene of happiness, or misery. Other causes may produce occasional additions or diminutions: but here, chiefly, the sum, the estimate and value of life will be formed. You who enjoy the pure delights, the unbounded confidence and exalted satisfactions of conjugal affection; you who, in addition to this, feel a parent's love, and experience the fond caresses of a child, learn, in these endearing ties, to trace the goodness of God; and let them be one motive with you, among a thousand others, to offer up the daily song of thanksgiving. Remember *He* is the ultimate "giver of all good." Whatever might be the proximate and apparent cause, *He* is the original author of that mind and those dispositions, which are formed for giving and receiving mutual happiness. *He* and *He* only could give the strong, but mysterious capacity of feeling and enjoying it. *He* is indeed the gracious author of every thing lovely and attractive in nature; and it is the characters of his hand that the fond father reads, when he views those smiles of innocence, which fill his heart with tenderness and love." P. 9.

ART. 37. *On the present Crisis of Affairs. A Sermon, preached at Westminster-Abbey, on Election-Sunday, May 13, 1798. By W. Cole, D. D. Chaplain to his Grace the Duke of Marlborough, Prebendary of St. Paul's, Westminster, and late Fellow of King's College, Cambridge.* 8vo. 16 pp. Rivingtons, &c. 1798.

The text of this discourse is, Galat. iv, 4, "When the fullness of the time was come." Dr. C. handles this text in a way not very uncommon. He dispatches it in three short sentences; of which the second is a geometrical allusion, not quite apposite, drawn from the word "*point*." Then, waving, as he says, the great point, he takes occasion to proceed to other matters, with which the text has very little concern. "At present I shall consider the expression of the fullness of time, as denoting several critical and remarkable seasons, applicable also to particular conditions, and interesting concerns of various description and denomination. But that which I shall more particularly consider, will be the present momentous crisis of affairs, so awful in its appearance, so highly interesting in its eventful termination," (p 6). In this method, an ingenious man may discuss almost any subject, from any text of scripture.

The sermon, however, is a classical, elegant, and seasonable declamation. But it does not, by any profundity of discussion, satisfy that high expectation which the very important words of the text are calculated to excite.

ART. 38. *Observations on the Principles of Christian Morality, and the Apostolic Character: occasioned by Dr. Paley's View of the Evidences of Christianity.* By the Rev. Peter Roberts, A. M. 8vo. 68 pp. 1s. 6d. Owen. 1796.

The observations contained in this tract, are very important, and they are written with candour and judgment. The design of Mr. Roberts,

Roberts, is to state objections to some few passages in Dr. Paley's book, which appear to us by no means ill-founded. When the "View of the Evidences" first appeared, our object was to give every chance of circulation to a book to generally useful. To examine minute particulars is a subsequent task. We are sorry we cannot inform our readers where this sensible tract is now to be had; the bookseller, whose name is in the title-page, having vanished from the paths of literary commerce.

ART. 39. *Scripture Histories, or interesting Narratives extracted from the Old Testament, for the Instruction and Amusement of Youth.* By Mrs. Pilkington. 12mo. 162 pp. 2s. Newbery. 1798.

The importance of directing the tender mind to religious considerations intrinsically every production, which aims at that end, to a welcome reception. Mrs. Pilkington has interwoven in the little narrative before us some of the most popular and affecting passages of Scripture history, related (to use Mrs. P.'s expression) in a style "more adapted to juvenile comprehension." Without denying the utility of such a work; we cannot but think that the language of Scripture is best suited to its own narratives; and that it is never exchanged, without losing that beauty and simplicity which render it intelligible and engaging to every capacity.

ART. 40. *True Patriotism. A Sermon preached in aid of the voluntary Contributions for the Defence of the Country, on Sunday March 14, 1798, in the Parish Church of St. Andrew Wardrobe and St. Ann, Blackfriars, London.* By the Rev. William Goode, A. M. Rector of the said Church, and Lecturer of St. John's, Wapping. 8vo. 32 pp. 1s. Rivingtons. 1798.

An animated and judicious address to the religious and political feelings of the audience. From the spirited determination of Mræ against Ammon, (2 Sam. 10. 12.) the preacher exhorts his hearers to be of good courage, play the men for their people, and for the cities of their God, resigning the event to his disposal. The discourse breathes such a spirit as we wish to see universal, and demonstrates the near connection between real piety and civil allegiance.

ART. 41. *Cautions against Innovations in Matters of Religion. A Sermon preached in the Parish Church of St. Mary le Bow, London, on Sunday Feb. 25, 1798.* By the Rev. William Van Mildert, M. A. 8vo. 21 pp. 1s. Rivington. 1798.

The importance of adhering to the christian faith agreeably to its ancient and simple character, is in this discourse demonstrated with much neatness and truth. The author cautions his readers against the spirit of refinement, which would rather sit in judgment upon scripture than seek its real sense; and urges the necessity of returning to the strict observance of those ordinances so venerated by our forefathers,

fathers, in order to uphold the cause of christian piety against the novelties of a crooked and perverse generation.

ART. 42. *A Sermon preached in the Parish Church of Fulham, on Monday the 5th of August, 1798, before the Gentlemen of the armed Association of the said Parish. By the Rev. Graham Jesson, Rector of Fulham; published at the unanimous Request of the Gentlemen who form the Committee of the said Association.* 4to. 16 pp.

A rational, manly and patriotic discourse, in which the peculiar excellencies of the British government, as they affect the middling and lower classes of society, are ably stated; and the propriety of defending the country in this alarming crisis, brought home to the feelings of all who are interested in their own welfare, as well as in that of their fellow subjects.

ART. 43. *A System of Divinity, for the Use of Schools, and for instructing Youth in the essential Principles and Duties of Religion. By J. G. Burckhardt, D. D.* 8vo. 187 pp. 2s. 6. Robinsons. 1797.

"This little work is chiefly designed for children, from 12 to 16 years and upwards; p. xxiii. all manner of disputes and controversies are waved; and such things only insisted upon as are necessary for all christians to know, and which perfectly agree with the *allowed* principles of natural and revealed religion," p. vii. The whole work is divided into three general parts, the historical, the dogmatical, (or doctrinal) and the moral.

To each chapter are subjoined several questions, the answers to which are to be deduced by the pupil from the preceding chapter. The author has executed his design judiciously; and has furnished parents, sponsors, and preceptors, with every useful assistance in that part of their duty, which they too often refer entirely to the professed teachers of religion; not considering that public instruction cannot be merely elementary; being addressed to persons in all stages of life, most of whom have had in their hands various means of obtaining religious knowledge, the possession of the Bible in particular, from their infancy.

ART. 44. *The Danger of Lukewarmness in Religion considered, and applied to the present State of this Country, in a Sermon delivered at the Obagon Chapel, Bath, on Sunday, April 29. By J. Gardiner, D. D. Rector of Brailisford, and Vicar of Shirley, in the County of Derby. Published by Request.* 8vo. 40 pp. 1s. Crutwell, Bath; Rivingtons, London. 1798.

A very animated remonstrance (from Rev. III, 14, 15, 16,) against some prevailing faults of the age, particularly indifference for religion; and an exhortation to repentance and zeal. Though we have read this discourse with satisfaction; yet its eloquence is of that sort, the effect of which is peculiarly increased by the force of a good delivery.

POLITICS.

POLITICS.

ART. 45. *A Letter on Finance, and on National Defence; addressed to those who are inclined to despond at the present Posture of Affairs.* By John Cbarnock, jun. Fourth Edition. 8vo. 56 pp. Faulder, and Richardson. 1798.

The positions in this tract are bold and novel, but at the same time reasonable and convincing: and the style has a liveliness, not unmingled with humour, which is still more original and unexpected, in a treatise on the dry subject of finance. To the croakers who consider this nation as ruined, on account of the enormous amount of her national debt, this author replies thus.

"I shall begin with very gravely and *wisely* remarking, that no man, having incurred debts to the amount of four hundred pounds, and possessing a property valued at five thousand, can possibly be said to be in a state of insolvency. *This is exactly the financial state of Great Britain at this instant.* The permanent and immoveable property, by which I mean the land of the country, the growing timber, and the buildings erected on it, from the most accurate and moderate calculation I have been able to form, would, if progressively sold, and properly recommended by the flowing oratory of Messrs. Skinner and Christie, produce the enormous sum of 2500,000,000. The moveable or chattel property, that is to say, the stock in the fundst, the specie, the plate, the jewels, the furniture, the stock in trade, the manufactured goods, the shipping, are certainly of equal value, after all the debts due from the inhabitants of Great Britain to persons living in foreign countries shall be discharged." P. 4.

The result of this singular, but surely not unfounded speculation, after making some deductions for argument's sake, and replying very solidly to some objections, is this; that, "taking the general national property at four thousand millions, and the debt on it at four hundred, there needs no great skill in arithmetic, to prove to the understanding of the most incredulous, that a fair contribution of *ten per cent.* out of all property, would dispel that immense *incubus*, which hourly spreads its terrific influence, distracts us even in idle dreams, enervates every faculty of the national mind, and prevents also the natural exertion of the body." P. 15. In a word, would pay off the whole national debt.

This patriotic and sensible pamphlet concludes with some important remarks on the means of conducting our national defence: and the whole confirms that idea of the author, which we conceived from his prior publications*, that he is an able and well-informed man.

* See Brit. Crit. vol. vii. p. 44; and ix. 530.

† This requires, undoubtedly, an explanation, which is given in the Postscript. *Rev.*

ART. 46. *Reflections on the Politics of France and England, at the Close of the Year 1797.* By J. T. Hughes, Esq. of the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn. 8vo. 2s. 6d. Debrett. 1797.

Mr. Hughes has, like an able lawyer, made the case of each of his clients appear just and consistent; the result of his deliberations is, "delenda est aut Roma aut Carthago." This is a truly alarming conclusion; whether the lot shall fall to us or to our enemies. That only the name of a once flourishing nation shall remain to one, is a most melancholy as well as awful consideration. Our ideas upon the subject, however, are not quite so gloomy; neither do we think that the war will not be finished, without the total annihilation of either one side or the other. Mr. H. asserts, that the Republic cannot exist without retaining Belgium: surely this is not strictly true; for, if we argue upon the advantages that will arise to France by retaining those provinces she has acquired by conquest, or those whose freedom she has guaranteed, which is the ground our author has taken for his assertion, we might likewise add from a parity of reasoning, that neither could she exist without retaining all her conquests. He adds upon this subject, that France, by guaranteeing the freedom of the Belgians, has acquired the ability to discharge her debts, and liquidate all the demands upon her, and subjoins, "I do not see how her right to retain the province can for a moment be called in question." This is a mode of argument similar indeed to the practice of the great nation, and perhaps both agree that possession is nine parts of the law. After expatiating largely upon the necessity of the balance of power to the safety of the states of Europe, he some few pages after says, that the acquisition of Belgium, Batavia, and Brabant by the enemy, must eventually benefit the Emperor of Germany and the King of Prussia. Is this intended to prove the truth of his preceding remark? After this, we shall say nothing of his attack upon Adam Smith, nor of his opinion of the political abilities of Mr. Burke; each of his remarks upon these characters appear to us equally deserving of credit as his assertion, that "no enormities have been practised since the reign of Robespierre." The Preface, in our opinion, is the best part of the pamphlet.

ART. 47. *Anecdotes and Characteristic Traits respecting the Invasion of the French Republicans into Franconia, in the Year 1796.* By an Eye-Witness. Translated from the German. 8vo. 1s. Bell. 1798.

A most melancholy picture of the horrors attendant upon a country, which becomes the seat of war to an army, where the soldiers claim equality, and their commanders the property of the wretched inhabitants; where the orders of the Directory are pillage in lieu of pay, and cloths for the troops at the expence, and from the very backs of an innocent peasantry. This is a tract we could wish to recommend; that the enormities committed by a French army, after the most solemn protestations to the contrary from their commanders, might

might be made as notorious as possible; but the poverty of the translation, and the vulgarity and indecency of many of the passages, prevent our approbation of any thing but the fidelity of the narrative.

ART. 48. *A Letter to the Seceders.* 8vo. 6d. Fletcher, Oxford; Rivingtons, London. 1797.

In all times, and in all countries, both ministry and its opponents have had a sufficient number of pamphlets with the titles of Letters, Advice, &c. instructing them what line of conduct to pursue, and what to avoid; but each sage adviser recommending some plan differing from another, no wonder that each party proceeds according to its own judgment, and leaves the disappointed author wondering at their want of sense, in not adopting what would probably prove the reverse of his proposition. The pages before us contain some sensible observations, but they are blended with others of an inferior stamp; and we totally disagree with the author when he asserts, "that he cannot regard Opposition deserting the fittings of Parliament but as a measure of direful consequences to this unhappy country."

ART. 49. *Thoughts concerning the proper Constitutional Principles, in Points of Finance and personal Service, that ought to be adopted in future, for the Support of the British Navy and Army. Addressed to the Grand Juries of England, and to the landed and funded Interests of Great Britain. By a Freeholder of the County of York.* 4to. York printed; Robinsons, London. 1797.

These thoughts seem to have been collected into their present form, and presented to the public, by a person who has no mean opinion of his own abilities, and who seems to think his reasoning and plans so conclusive, as to admit of no doubt as to their expediency. The subject of finance is a matter of such intricacy, that much blame perhaps will not attach to this author, should he be found to fail where so many have failed before him. Every scheme, upon a business of such importance, must undergo so many modifications, and must be considered so minutely in every consequence, both remote and immediate, that we hope this writer will excuse us when we say, his ideas upon the subject appear imperfect and undigested. In his plan for the support of the British navy and army, he appears to be much happier. Every hint towards improvements of such national importance will, though not adopted, be entitled to the acknowledgment of the friends of their country.

ART. 50. *The Fruits of the Tree of Gallic Liberty. Translated from the French. To which is added a French Ode by the Translator; addressed to the British Nation.* 8vo. 38 pp. 1s. Editor, No. 8, Church-street, Keatington; Wright, Piccadilly. 1798.

The facts stated in this small tract, are sufficiently important to give it circulation, though the style is too French, even in a translation, to
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be entirely pleasing to an English reader. We do not mean in the the idioms, but in the mode of declamation. Of the French Ode subjoined, the following stanzas cannot fail to please every Englishman who can read them :

Ne vous fût-il point, favoris de Neptune !
Du seul bras qui reste à Nelson
 Pour a son char, captive enchaîner la Fortune ;
 Et pour de *Buonaparte* éclipser le renom ?
 Que vos vains projets s'en aillent en fumée,
 Il aura vecu trop d'un jour,
 Aux rives du *Delta* s'il vomit son armée,
 Nos matelots des siens, rendront compte au retour.

The event has completely justified the prediction.

ART. 51. *Our good Old Castle on the Rock; or Union the one Thing needful. Addressed to the People of England.* 12mo. 23 pp. 3d. or 2s. 6d. per dozen. Wright Piccadilly. 1798.

The author of this little pamphlet, is Mr. Pratt, who not long ago addressed, respectively, the soldiers and sailors of Great Britain, in very useful terms of admonition. (See Brit. Crit. x. 444.) The topic he has here chosen, is peculiarly well suited to public advantage, since the art by which France has succeeded in other countries, has been that of disuniting the people; and since by no other method can she hope to injure us. We trust that the moment is at length arrived, when almost every heart is prepared to receive such advice with favour.

ART. 52. *Peace in our Power, upon Terms not unreasonable.* By Charles Baring, Esq. 8vo. 1s. Cadell and Davies. 1798.

Mr. Baring, who seems biased by no party considerations, thinks that peace may be obtained from France on the following terms:—First, by his Majesty's giving up his title as King of France; by agreeing that neutral ships constitute neutral property; and by resigning to France and her allies all our conquests without reserve. The writer, however, omits to say what France might be reasonably expected to resign on her part.

ART. 53. *An Address to the People of Ireland, on its present Situation of public Affairs.* 8vo. Bell. 1s. 6d. 1798.

This is a very animated address, the tendency of which is to impress upon the minds of the people of Ireland the necessity of unanimity against a foe whose only hope of success depends upon exciting a spirit of internal division, in which France has unhappily been too successful.

ART. 54. *Speech of R. Goodloe Harper, Esq. on the Foreign Intercourse Bill delivered in the House of Representatives of the United States; on Friday, March 2, 1798.* 8vo. 1s. 6d. Wright. 1798.

This manly vindication of the conduct of America with regard to England, with a detail of the perfidious arts used by France to detach the two countries from each other, we seriously recommend to the careful perusal of all who wish to be informed on a question of late much handled, but not sufficiently understood. Mr. Harper appears in the character of a true patriot, and as such is entitled to our warmest esteem and regard.

ART. 55. *The Progress of Delusion, or an Address to all Parties, exposing the Influence and Efforts of Popular Credulity and Indolence, and pointing out the only Means of being preserved from National Ruin.* 8vo. Hatchard. 1s. 1798.

This sensible writer recommends unanimity as the best security against an ambitious enemy. He points out several delusions which impose fetters on the human mind, and concludes by asserting political delusion to be the last and greatest of all.

MISCELLANIES.

ART. 56. *An English Key to Xenophon's Memorabilia of Socrates: literally translating the Passages which appear difficult to young Beginners; and explaining their grammatical Construction; intended as an Introduction to construing the Greek Classics into English, without the Use of Latin. For the Use of Schools.* 8vo. 281 pp. 5s. Matthews, No. 18, Strand. 1797.

The design of the anonymous writer who publishes this book is professedly "to try the disposition of the public mind. towards an attempt to teach Greek, without the least assistance from Latin;" and he seems to apprehend that his endeavour will not be successful, because repugnant to the established modes of education. The reason, we conceive, for the practice hitherto most generally observed in this, that the scholar, having his Greek interpreted in Latin, is constantly exercised and confirmed in the knowledge of that language, while he is proceeding in the other, and thus gains two advantages at once. The trifling degree of ease that is gained by interpreting in English instead of Latin, seems to us more likely to relax the application of the student, than to encourage his efforts. Supposing the attempt to be desirable, it appears in this instance to be well executed. The author's mode of interpreting is clear, and such as shows a competent knowledge of the subject. γράφω, for instance, in the first section is thus illustrated:

"The words of the γραφή now follow, (in Xenophon's narrative) omitting the violated statute, and the name of (the ὁ γραψας, he who has accused) the accuser.

Αδίκηι Σωκράτης, ὅς μεν ἡ πόλις νομίζει θεός, καὶ νομίζων, ἴσθαι δὲ καὶνὸν δαίμονα εἰσφέρειν. Ἀδίκηι δὲ καὶ τῆς νύκτος διαφθοίραν.

Thus violating the statute of our laws which says Ἐτις θάνατος εἴω.

Signed Μελίτος."

In the fourth section of this chapter, we should contend that το δαίμονιον σημαίνειν, ought to be rendered, "that the divine power gave him intimation. Our chief objection to this volume is the omission of accents and spirits; the aspirate in particular is an actual letter, and we have therefore supplied it in our quotation.

ART. 57. *Pro Aris et Focis, Considerations on the Reasons that exist for reviving the Use of the Long Bow with the Pike, in Aid of the Measures brought forward by his Majesty's Ministers for the Defence of the Country.* By Richard Oswald Mason, Esq. 8vo. 3s. 6d. Egerton. 1798.

This entertaining and patriotic effort to revive among us an ancient and honourable part of military discipline, must be regarded with complacency even by those who may not approve what is here recommended. With respect to the pike at least, of which, with its exercise and use, an account is given by Mr. Mason, it seems worthy of consideration, particularly when it shall be remembered, how much the rebels in Ireland confided in its efficacy.

ART. 58. *Historical Beauties for young Ladies, intended to lead the Female Mind to the Love and Practice of moral goodness; designed principally for the Use of Ladies' Schools; ornamented with thirty-four Engravings, beautifully cut on Wood.* 12mo. 2s. 6d. Verner and Hood. 1798.

Mrs. Pilkington's pen is not only indefatigable, but generally gives us an opportunity of praising its labours. The present is a neat and useful present for young ladies.

ART. 59. *An Attempt to describe Hafod, and the neighbouring Scenery about the Funack, commonly called the Devil's Bridge, in the County of Cardigan. An ancient Seat belonging to Thomas Jones, Esq. Member for the County of Radnor.* By George Cumberland. Crown 8vo. 50 pp. 2s. 6d. Egerton.

The author of this descriptive tract, who has travelled much on the Continent, and particularly in Switzerland, does not scruple, in his preface, to prefer some of the scenes of Hafod, even to those of the Alpine countries, except as to advantages derived from clearer skies. Mr. Jones, the liberal and well-informed possessor of Hafod, has, we understand, spared no expence to add to the natural charms of the place every appropriate ornament that taste can supply; and the delighted traveller

traveller meets, with astonishment, a cultivated paradise, amidst the wilds and mountains of Cardigan. Mr. Cumberland, whose talents for description seem not inconsiderable, has attempted, with the aid of a map, to lead the traveller by the hand through the varying enchantments of Hafod. His description is enlivened by many classical and poetical allusions, and may certainly be considered not only as a pleasing guide to strangers, but as a handsome and well-deserved compliment to the owner of the place.

ART. 60. *A Treatise on the Teeth, wherein an accurate Idea of their Structure is given; the Cause of their Decay pointed out, &c. &c.* By the Chevalier Ruspini. 12mo. 1s. 6d. Kearsley. 1798.

To this eighth edition of an ingenious dissertation on the teeth and gums, with the proper management of the diseases to which they are severally exposed, Mr. Ruspini has subjoined a number of testimonies in favour of his styptic solution, from persons of the "first character and respectability."

ART. 61. *Geographiæ Antiquæ Principia, or the Elements of Ancient Geography.* By Richard Perkins, Jun. 12mo. 1s. 6d. Johnson. 1798.

Young students may thank Mr. Perkins for this very neat and useful introduction to the knowledge of ancient geography. The author's declaration of his enthusiastic admiration of the principles which Mrs. Wollstonecroft so ably defended, is somewhat out of place; but we nevertheless approve of the plan of this little work.

ART. 62. *An Account of Portugal as it appeared in 1766 to Dumourier, since a celebrated General in the French Army. Printed at Lausanne in 1775.* 8vo. 254 pp. 4s. Law. 1797.

From the advertisement prefixed to this translation we learn, that in the years 1765 and 1766 Dumourier, then a captain of infantry, made the tour of Spain and Portugal, by order of the Duke de Choiseul, Minister of Foreign Affairs to Louis XV. To the remarks which he had then made, the author afterwards added particular observations upon the government, politics, finance, commerce, manners, colonies, &c. of Portugal. The whole was printed at Lausanne in 1775; and the translation was made from that copy. Many exceptionable parts are omitted in this translation, and matters mistaken by Dumourier corrected. The account is written with that clearness, vivacity, and shrewd discernment which characterize this extraordinary man; and the very little which is known of Portugal, will render this performance (which is concise and portable) a very acceptable present to the curious part of the public.

Does the translator mean to give the verses inserted in a note at p. 159, as written in the Portuguese language? His words seem to imply it, and yet it is hardly credible that he should be so deceived.

ART. 63. *The Horse of Example; or, the History of Henry and Cane Line; written for the Instruction and Amusement of young Persons.* 12mo. 2s. 6d. Newbery. 1798.

This is a well written narrative, and the advantages of a good and the evils of a neglected education, are exceedingly well delineated.

ART. 64. *Reflections on the present Condition of the Female Sex, with Suggestions for its Improvement.* By Priscilla Wakefield. 12mo. 3s. Johnson. 1798.

The perusal of this little volume has afforded us much satisfaction; and notwithstanding we may be inclined to make some occasional exceptions, yet we sincerely recommend the work to the attention of all who may be engaged in the important task of French education. Mrs. Wakefield has written many things before, which we have noticed with praise; and indeed the exertions of her pen seem to be always directed for the benefit and improvement of the youthful mind.

FOREIGN CATALOGUE.

FRANCE.

ART. 65. *Tableau de l'Espagne moderne, par J. Fr. Bourgoing, ci-devant ministre plénipotentiaire de la république française à Madrid, correspondant officiel de l'institut; deuxième édition, corrigée et considérablement augmentée.* 3 Vols. in 8vo. avec figures et plans. Paris. pr. 15 fr.

The present work had already appeared in 1789, in two volumes, and without the name of the author; the edition which we here announce, is considerably increased, being enriched with observations made by the author in two other visits to the country, since the year 1789, and by the information which he has derived from his connection with some of the principal persons of the kingdom.

Mr. B. begins his travels with Biscay, then makes an excursion to the kingdom of Leon, describes the chief towns in the provinces through which he passes, and, lastly, directs his course towards Madrid, and St. Ildefonso, the usual residence of the Kings of Spain, after having traversed the deserts of Old-Castille.

Biscay forms a striking contrast with the rest of Spain. It is the province which enjoys the greatest number of exemptions and privileges. It presents even the elements of a representative government; the orders of the king are executed only after the consent of the provincial administration. A general assembly is held every year, where an account is given of the manner in which the public money has been employed;

employed; it is composed of deputies from all the cities and towns which have a right to be represented in it; these deputies are nominated by the municipal bodies, who are annually elected by such citizens as possess a certain property. The assembly imposes taxes on itself only, and the king receives, as a gratuity, whatever it thinks fit to allow him.

Bilboa is the most considerable town in Biscay, though it does not contain more than 15 000 inhabitants. Its commerce is very extensive, and consists principally in wools, which it sends throughout all Europe. Its port is large and commodious.

Under the article *Segovia*, the author speaks of those famous wools, which constitute one of the most valuable treasures of Spain. He shows that their fineness, and the other qualities attributed to them, are not so much owing to the temperature of the climate, or to the nature of their pastures, as to the practice of making the sheep *travel*; the Spanish sheep, however, furnish excellent wool, even without this resource.

We have observed that St. Ildefonso is the ordinary residence of the royal family. The court of the kings of Spain has generally been more reserved than the other courts of Europe. That of Charles IV, the present king, is particularly austere. It seems that hunting and fishing have usually been the favourite amusements of the kings of Spain, and of the individuals of their family: Charles IV, who is himself passionately fond of hunting, has, however, endeavoured to make his pleasures compatible with the interests of his people. Scarcely had he ascended the throne, when he was anxious to destroy the prodigious quantity of flags and deer which devoured the productions of the earth. He has likewise other tastes which call him off, in some degree, from the chase; the fine arts and bodily exercises.

A singular custom here, is that established among the *grandees* of the ancient families, of *showing* each other exclusively, whatever may be the difference of their ages, or public employments. If they speak to persons of a less illustrious extraction, they give them the title of *excellence*.

The Spanish Lords are the richest of all Lords. They have numerous sets of mules for their carriages, which remain idle throughout the year; ancient liveries which seldom see the light; stewards, treasurers, an host of domestics, who ought rather to be employed in agriculture. To give an idea of them, it will be sufficient to say, that the Duke d'Arcos, who died in 1780, had 3000 persons of this description in his pay.

In the chapter entitled, *Le pour et le contre sur l'inquisition*, nothing is, in reality, alledged in favour of the inquisition itself, but of certain individual inquisitors only.

Spain is reckoned to contain about 10,000,000 of inhabitants; and the population of Madrid to be about 180,000 souls. The revenues of the kingdom are nearly 160,000,000 (livres); but the expences before the last war with France, exceeded the receipts, and the amount of the debt was, at that period, about 400,000,000. This debt compared with those of France, or of England, is certainly inconsiderable; but

but Spain has fewer resources, and its expenses are daily increasing.

One cannot but be astonished that, after the figure which Spain made in the last century, it should now have so much fallen off. Among the causes which may be assigned for this are, the low state of its manufactures, occasioned by the expulsion of the Moors and Jews, and by the emigrations to America; the ruinous wars in which it has so long been engaged, and its inattention to agriculture, caused, in a great measure, by the same reasons which have destroyed its commerce. It is greatly to be lamented, that agriculture is so much neglected in Spain, as it might derive from its own fund, not only whatever is necessary for the support of life, but likewise appropriate to itself a number of foreign productions. The kingdom of Valencia is covered with rice-grounds. About Velez-Malaga and Torrox, the sugar-cane is cultivated with success, and it is only owing to the want of wood, that the sugar plantations, the remains of Moorish industry, are no longer attended to.

From Madrid the author went to Toledo, Seville, Cadix; he traversed the kingdoms of Valencia and Arragon, and returned by Catalonia to France. His observations on the commerce of Barcelona and Cadix, the most opulent and the most active cities in all Spain, are very valuable. We are sorry that he did not visit the kingdoms of Grenada and Murcia, so remarkable for their fertility, and for their agreeable scenery.

The Spaniards are haughty, grave, proud. The jealousy with which they are reproached, exists rather among lovers, than husbands. Duels are rare among them, but assassinations and murders very common, more especially in the kingdom of Valencia. There is a sort of challenge which bands of musicians send to each other, without any motive but that of showing their courage. It begins with fire-arms and terminates with swords. This is called the *Rondalla*, and the custom still subsists in Navarre and Arragon.

Spanish literature consists chiefly, at present, of translations from English and French works. It is an extraordinary circumstance, and what abundantly demonstrates how far taste is relative, that the same persons who presume to criticize *Molière* and *Racine*, attend with infinite pleasure the representation of pieces of three acts, extremely confused, and where the story is interrupted at the end of every act by interludes called *Saynetes*, which must necessarily diminish the interest of the principal piece, if there really were any. But though the state of modern Spanish literature be thus deplorable, it must be allowed that the sciences are more successfully cultivated in that country, and the author cites the names of many who have distinguished themselves in that department. There is likewise in Spain an academy of the language, founded by Philip V, in imitation of the French academy, and composed of 24 members only. The Dictionary which it has produced, is regarded as the most complete existing in any language.

The Spanish ladies are less coquettish than those of some other countries. Though from the nature of their complexions, they may be thought to require it, they disdain the use of rouge; in their persons they

they are, in general, noble and graceful; in their attachments tender and constant. Extremely reserved they do not allow themselves those familiarities, which the usages of society among other people permit, nor suffer themselves to receive in public the most innocent salute. Accordingly the translator of the French opera, entitled, *le Tonnellier*, has chosen to represent *Fanebette*, combing her lover's head (which is an unequivocal sign of affection among them) than accepting a kiss from him. They do not, however, scruple to indulge in such indecent conversations, stories, and songs, as libertines, in other countries, would hardly allow themselves in their orgies. This conduct is the fruit of the education which they receive. Consigned from their youth to the care of domestics, they adopt their gross language, which idleness, habit, and example afterwards render familiar to them.

Though some objections may be made to this book, it must be owned, that its defects are abundantly compensated by the interesting notices which it contains on the wools of Spain, on the commerce of Cadix and Barcelona, on the Spanish Colonies, on the resources which this kingdom offers, and is still capable of furnishing, &c. which evince mature observation, a sound judgment, and a more than ordinary portion of diplomatic knowledge.

Espr. d. Journ.

ART. 66. *Flora Atlantica, sive Historia plantarum quæ in Atlante, agro Tunesano et Algeriensi crescunt; autore Renato Desfontaines, Instituti nationalis scientiarum Gallicæ socio, necnon in Museo Historiæ naturalis Parisiensis botanices professore.* Paris.

This *Flora* presents the description of about sixteen hundred plants, which the author had observed on the coast of Barbary, during the years 1783, 1784, and 1785. In this number there are many common to Europe; others are less known, and there are nearly three hundred new plants, of which two hundred and forty have been designed and engraved with great care, by able artists, as *Redouté*, *Maréchal*, and *Sellier*.

The work, written in Latin, and arranged according to the system of *Linnaeus*, will appear in eight *livraisons*, each of which is to contain thirty engravings, with from 100 to 120 pp. of text, large 4to. The first of these *livraisons* has already been published, and the whole will be completed in the course of a year.

Ibid.

ITALY.

ART. 67. *Sistema universale dei principj del diritto marittimo dell'Europa, del Sigr. senator Dominico Alberto Azuni, patrizio Saffarese, &c. Edizione seconda riveduta ed aumentata dall'autore.* Trieste, 1797. 2 vols. in 8vo.

The first volume of this work comprehends the whole of the first part; it is divided into three chapters. In the first, the author treats of the important

important question of the empire of the sea, which he reduces to a system on the principles of the law of nature and nations, with equal ingenuity and erudition.

The second chapter has for its object the effects of the empire of the sea. Having fixed its true limits, he distinctly states all the rights which belong to the powers who are proprietors of the territorial sea; rights which have hitherto been considered as uncertain, frequently discussed and controverted, but never decided.

In the third chapter Mr. *A.* gives an account of the origin and progress of maritime legislation. The Rhodian laws are regarded as the first; but they are not those laws which have been so much extolled, and so blindly adored by different writers. The author has examined them with great attention, and proved them to be nothing more than an ill-digested production under a false title.

Mr. *A.* in the next place, treats of the nautic laws of the Romans, contained in the Digest, the Theodosian Code, in that of *Justinian*, and in the laws promulged by the Emperor Leo, going back to the sources from whence they were drawn; we are thus presented with a view of the origin and progress of the nautic laws of the Romans, which will undoubtedly be found very useful to the student in general jurisprudence. He then proceeds, to the end of the volume, to analyse the laws of the several nations of Europe, with the same philological knowledge and precision.

The *second volume* has, for its object, the maritime commerce of neutral nations in time of war. *Habner*, *Galiani*, and *Launpredi*, were the first who, in the present century, have spoken of the duties of neutrality, particularly in regard to commerce. Mr. *A.* in meditating seriously on this important subject, discusses the opinions of his predecessors, which he adopts, combats, modifies, and finally rectifies, so as to give them a more firm basis, and make them more easy to be understood.

GERMANY.

ART. 68. *Allgemeine geographische Ephemeriden. Verfasst von einer Gesellschaft Gelehrter, und herausgegeben von F. von Zach, H. S. G. Obristwachtm. und Director der k. rz. Sternwarte von Seeberg bey Gotha.* 1 Bds. 1, II Stück.—*Universal Geographical Ephemerides, composed by a Society of learned Men, and published by Mr. de Zach, Director of the Observatory at Gotha. Vol. I. Parts I, II. Weimar, 1798.*

It is with a view to combine the observations of different astronomers, and to direct them to the improvement of geographical knowledge, that Mr. *de Zach* has undertaken this journal.

We may be enabled to form some judgment from the first number, of the advantages which both geography and astronomy are likely to derive

derive from this work, from the account of the solar eclipse, June 24, 1797. The director of this journal has collected, in the space of six weeks, eighteen observations from Madrid to Dantzic; and the astronomer of Vienna, Mr. *Triesnecker*, has begun to form calculations from them, the result of which will soon be communicated to the public through the same channel.

The objects then which will be found in this journal will be, 1. *Memoirs* on geographical subjects, or on new astronomical discoveries, chosen in such a manner as to present nothing which is of little importance, or already known; 2. a critical account of all new geographical and astronomical works and charts; 3. extracts from the letters of correspondents.

The *first* number contains, 1. a Memoir, in which is determined the longitude of 43 places by 153 observations, both from occultations of the stars, and from solar eclipses, by *Francis de Paula Triesnecker*, Professor of Astronomy, and Director of the Observatory at Vienna.

The geographical charts, of which an account is here given, are,

1. Historic Atlas of England, by *John Andrews*; London, 1797.
2. March of the French Armies of the Rhine and Moselle. Retreat out of Bavaria into France, by the celebrated *Haas*, jun. at Basil, printed with moveable types, first applied to this purpose by *Swegenheim*, a German, who, in conjunction with *Arnold Pannartz*, composed the 27 maps for the geography of Ptolemy; which work was finished by *Arnold Bucking*, in 1478.
3. Map of Spain and Portugal, by *Faen*.

This map is well engraved, and printed on superfine paper, but full of faults. The author, who has neglected the modern sources of information, seems to have done little more than copy the charts of *Lopez*.

Correspondence.

1. Notices concerning the geographical determinations of *Beauchamp* in the Archipelago of Greece, and on the south coasts of the Black-Sea.
2. Extract of a letter from Salonica, in which it is shown, that the chart of the Troad, by *Chevalier*, was not formed on the spot on geometrical principles, but from memory only.
3. 4. Letters, by Mr. *Lalande*, and Dr. *Schroeter*.

In the *second* number, we are presented with the following

Memoirs.

1. Statistical Notices relative to China, extracted from the voyage of Lord *Macartney* in 1793, as drawn up by Sir *G. Staunton*. It is here observed, that China is not the name of which the Chinese themselves make use; for the Chinese give the country the name of the reigning family; calling themselves *Eleutic Tartars*. According to Sir *G. St.* however, they would be more properly named *Mongols*. In the English map which accompanies the voyage of Lord *M.* these names, with many others, are confounded; but in the copy of it prefixed to this journal, the necessary corrections are made, and the orthography of *Gatterer* adopted.

Sir

Sir G. St. gives to the empire of China, as well as to the Russian empire, an extent of 4 millions of English, that is, 312,500 geographical square miles. This calculation must, however, be inaccurate. In regard to Russia, the author himself observes, that it contains 336,000 geographical square miles; and in the empire of China, according to the chart prefixed to this number, exclusively of the tributary states in India, and of Corea (which can only be said to belong to China in the same manner in which the Batavian and Cisalpine republics do to France) there are certainly not more than 27,000 geographical square miles, so that China must be considerably less than Russia. China, properly so called, Sir G. St. at one time reckons to contain 75,000, and at another 81,125 geographical square miles, and both these calculations are said to have been formed from actual measurement; made, of course, by French missionaries, according to whose maps they are, notwithstanding, too high. *Templeman's* estimate of 69,062 geographical square miles, agrees therefore better with them. The number of inhabitants in the fifteen provinces is said to be 333,000,000. But though this account was furnished by a Mandarin, from what are called authentic records, we conceive that a considerable deduction should be made from it. The French missionaries, on the same authority, give to Peking, a city about twice as large as London, consisting of houses of one story only, 3,000,000, and to Canton 1,000,000 of inhabitants. *Sonnerat*, who distrusted the Chinese, made the most diligent enquiry into the number of its inhabitants, which he did not find to amount to more than 75,000; but, on the supposition that this account is exact, we should have as the number of inhabitants on the same space, in different countries, the following proportions:

For Iceland, 1; Norway, 2; Sweden, 14; Spain, 63; Germany, 127; France, England, 152; China, 1472; (p. 149) where, however, we suspect that there is an error of the press, and that the number ought to be 247.

The armed force consists of 1,000,000 infantry, and 800,000 cavalry.

It is remarkable, that though the persons concerned in this voyage were well provided with chronometers, and other mathematical instruments, they made no astronomical observations, and determined the latitude of Canton only.

2. View of the Progress of Geography in Russia, with an Account of a new Russian Atlas, published by the the Corps of Cadets of the Mines—to be continued in the next Number.

Peter the Great having observed, in 1717, what the Academy of Sciences had done for the improvement of geography in France, was very anxious to imitate them in regard to his own empire. In the year 1715, he had had several of his provinces measured; in 1720, a chart of the Caspian sea was taken, as also a view of the course of the Don from Woronezh to the sea of Asoph, by Admiral *Cray*; in 1722, the confines of Sweden and Russia were determined; he likewise projected the voyage which *Bering* performed after the death of Peter. It is but just to give the name of *Bering* to the straight which separates Asia from

from America, since he is the first person who proceeded here as far as the 68° degree of latitude.

Catherine II. likewise paid the greatest attention to the plans which were presented to her for the progress of geography. In 1768, she sent five companies of learned men to explore her extensive dominions; and in 1785, she gave new orders for a voyage which was finished in 1794, the account of which we are to expect from the celebrated *Pallas*.

3. Continuation of the Memoir, by Mr. *Triesnecker*, on Longitudes.

4. On the Commerce of Tea in Canton.

It is not easy to determine the origin of the use of tea: we only know, that in England, in the year 1666, a pound of tea cost 3*l*. sterling; in 1695, the English East-India Company sold only 50,000 pound of tea; but in 1721, the tea imported into Europe amounted to 4,000,000 pound, as it does now to not less than 30,000,000 pound, of which the English only import into Europe from 20 to 24,000,000 pound.

The *new publications*, of which an account is given in this number, are,

1. *Ueber Russlands Handel, &c.* on the Commerce, Economy, and Productions of Russia, by *G. Chr. Friebe*; two vols. in 8vo. Gotha and Petersburg. A very important work, containing the most accurate information in regard to the productions of Russia.

2. Proceedings of the Association for promoting the Discovery of the interior Parts of Africa, 2nd vol. part 1. London, 1797.

The *new maps* announced in it are,

1. Chart of the Road of Leghorn, by *John Knight*, 1797. In this critique, several corrections are suggested, and omissions supplied, by a person who is perfectly well acquainted with that coast,

2. New Map of Ireland, by *D. A. Beaufort*.

3. A general Chart of the West-India Islands, by *L. S. de la Rochette*.

The Number concludes with *Letters* from Messrs. *Oriani*, *Bobnerberger*, *Tralles*, *Burckhardt*, &c. *Jena ALZ.*

ART. 69. *Ueber den Bergbau in Spanien*, von M. J. M. Hoppenfack. — *Observations on the Mines of Spain*, by M. J. M. Hoppenfack. Weimar, 158 pp. in 8vo. with Plates.

It appears that the author has entirely followed *Mariana* in his history of the ancient state of the mines, as he makes no mention of the writings of *Reitemaier* and *Tychsen*. He has himself discovered vestiges of the works of the Romans; gold was not the only object of their researches; they employed likewise iron, silver, and copper.

During the times of the Goths and Saracens these mines were neglected; they got from them only small quantities of copper and lead; they were scarcely less so even in more modern times, when the mercurial mines were the only ones to which any attention was paid. The famous Counts de Fugger had the direction of them till the year 1551, when they obtained the grant for 30 years, of the very rich silver-mine formerly worked by the Carthaginians, at Guadalcanal. It passed afterwards to the French company, who entrusted the author with the management of it in 1775. There was, however, some misunderstanding

ing between them, and the company was totally dissolved in 1779, one year after the author had solicited and obtained his dismissal.

The 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10th paragraphs, contain a description of the places where mines of silver, copper, tin, lead, iron, and cobalt, may still be advantageously worked, not having yet been sufficiently examined by the miners.

We may then regard Spain as one of the countries the most favoured by nature in its mineral riches, which have, however, hitherto been very much neglected. Their annual produce is about

1,600	Cwt. of Mercury.
250 Copper.
31,000 Lead.
175,000 Iron.
2,500 Vitriol.
14,000 Alum.
750 Sulphur.

The gold and silver mines are not yet worked, though there are many veins of them in Estremadura, and the mountains of Sierra-Morena.

In the second part, which treats of the mercurial mines of Almaden, it is proved, on the testimony of *Pliny*, that they were worked so early as 2287 years ago, and that they are really those from which the cinabar was sent to Rome in the form of powder or sand.

The description of the buildings will not admit of being abridged: it is accompanied with plans of the furnaces, &c. which render it very interesting.

Since the year 1524, there have been drawn from this mine about 150,000 cwt. of mercury; its actual produce amounts sometimes to 20,000 cwt. yearly; exclusively of 60 cwt. which is sent annually to Seville either in the state of vermilion, or under the form of sealing-wax, and which contains as much as 0.70 of mercury. Nearly one thousand workmen are employed in this mine. *Ibid.*

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We have received a letter from *Dr. Jenner*, in which he states his opinion, "that adequate and just ideas of the peculiar nature of the pustule, in the *Cow-Pox*, could not have been conveyed without coloured delineations." He accounts for the defect of experiments respecting the greasy heels of horses, from the difficulty of meeting with horses diseased in that peculiar way, which he conceives capable of producing the infection. We much respect the efforts he has made, in a new and important enquiry; but we still think that the attempt to account for the remoter origin of the disease, might as well have been deferred, till adequate experiments could be made.

A Female

A Female Correspondent represents to us, very much to our surprise, that there are such creatures as tyrannical husbands, who use their wives very ill. We have also heard of wives, who kept their husbands in great subjection. If so, there are occasionally wrongs on both sides.

We thank *A. Z.* for his communication on the subject of *errata*; which the greatest care cannot totally exclude.

P. O. is quite right in his notion, that there is no predilection in the case he mentions. He would know that this *must* be the case, were he better acquainted with our internal arrangements. The works he mentions are not forgotten, nor will be omitted.

The *Suffolk Freeholder* will most probably, at some time or other, see many of the poems which he published with his own name, nearly in the same light as we did. But we are very glad to have given due commendations to those anonymous performances which were free from such defects.

The preceding article will at the same time announce to another correspondent, that we now know, who the *Suffolk Freeholder* really is; and that he is not Mr. Ranby.

LITERARY INTELLIGENCE.

De Chronico integro. Eusebii Pamphili

Ex Græco Armeniacè atque Latine

nunc primum edendo à Monachis Armenis

in insulâ Sancti Lazari apud Venetias degentibus

ad viros Literatos Nuntiatio.

Eusebii Pamphili Chronicon Græcè conscriptum, opus longè pretiosissimum, jamdiu deperditum fuisse, et apud viros literatos constare, et est ab iis hujus cemodi jactura maxima semper habita. Vix tamen hætenus innotuit superesse operis ipsius integri versionem Armeniacam, certè sæculo quinto æræ vulgaris factam: quæ Eusebii textum omni cum fide representet. Itaque operæ pretium se facturos existimant Monachi Armeni Sancti Lazari apud Venetias, si Versionem ipsam in propriâ insulâ suâ typis impressam in lucem emittant; versione latinâ adjectâ, cum fragmentis græcis quonibus, quæ supersunt.

Hac editione Chronicon totum primò prodibit eâ ratione, quæ ab Auctore bipartitum est, ut pars prior historiam Chronographicam antiquis monumentis refertam, posterior canonem chronicum

chronicum contineat. Quantum in Sancti Hieronymi translatione desit, vel interpolatum sit; necnon quàm malè in Chronici editionese gesserit. Josephus Scaliger, palam omnino fiet.

Versionem Armeniacam proferentes, interpretationem latinam à se elaboratam Editores è regione adjicient; itidemque suis locis fragmenta græca genuina, quæ fidem Versioni Armeniacæ adstruent.

Annotationes opportunæ non deerunt, in quibus fragmentis incertæ auctoritatis locus dabitur; Scaligeri præterea, Vallarsii, aliorumque vivorum eruditorum de toto opere, aut de variis ipsius locis errores ac inanes conjecturas se composituros Monachi profitentur.

Hac de re literatis viris nuntium publicè dare è re esse Editores putarunt, tum ut de opere Eusebii redivivo iidem gaudeant; tum ut editionis nuntiatae conscii, possint, si velint, curam gerere pro exemplaribus operis comparandis.

Constabit opus totum volumine uno in folio, quod ut eà, qua par est curâ atque studio imprimatur, nec non pretio æquo veneat, sollicitudinem omnem se adhibituros esse Editores pollicentur.

Ex insulâ Sancti Lazari prope Venetias,
Calendis Augusti M.DCC.LXXXVIII.

Dr. Warton is preparing an edition of the poetical works of *Dryden*.

The *Travels of Isaac Weld, Esq. Jun.* through the States of North America, and the provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, will soon be published in quarto, with many plates.

Dr. Morfe, author of the *American Geography*, has also prepared an *American Gazetteer*.

Many of our readers will be glad to be informed, that the *Anti-Jacobin Newspaper* is reprinting altogether in an octavo size.

The *Rev. Mr. Rivers*, author of a tract, entitled *Observations on the Political Conduct of the Dissenters*, is preparing a volume of Sermons for the press.

ERRATA.

In our last number, p. 227, l. 17. for *form* read *foam*.

p. 311, l. 19 from the bottom, for *efforescence*
read *efflorescence*.

p. 227, in Art. 62, for *orders* read *organs*.

THE
BRITISH CRITIC,

For NOVEMBER, 1798.

Satis hoc mercedis habeto
Si laudem victor, si fert opprobria victus. CALPURNIUS.

Let this suffice, if all receive their due,
Some of just praise, and some of censure too,

ART. I. *Juridical Arguments and Collections.* By Francis Hargrave, Esq. Barrister at Law. 4to. 570 pp. 1l. 7s. Robinsons. 1797.

WE are happy to notice another publication from Mr. Hargrave, on matters of law. Of all the branches of literature that come successively under our consideration, that of the law of the land seems to be the most singularly circumstanced. The ability and energy employed upon the study and practice of the law, are certainly equal, if not superior, to those bestowed on any other profession, or any other study or pursuit whatsoever; the number of its professors, the rivalry of their competition, the riches and honours that attend on many, and that operate as incitements to all its votaries, should, we think, contribute to make disquisitions on the law and constitution very distinguished pieces in the literature of the country; but, on the contrary, we find such productions in general come before the public without the usual advantages of composition; the learning of judges, the arguments of counsel, are exposed to be reported by others; this is performed not always with

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fidelity,

BRIT. CRIT. VOL. XII, NOV. 1798.

fidelity, much less with elegance; and the reader has the mortification to reflect, that the best pieces of juridical authority are not delivered down in the very words of those to whom he looks up for authentic information. To this indeed there are some exceptions; but it must be confessed, that the most eminent lawyers, whose writings we have, and whose opinions therefore we see in their own words, have been so careless about the art of composition, that very few of them can claim a distinguished place upon the scale of English literature.

Impressed with the prevalence of these defects, we think much praise is due to Mr. H. for giving to the public the result of his researches, and considerations upon points of law. We have here from him a work, not only of learning, but of elegance. We think it mere justice to Mr. H. to declare, that on matters of *legal discussion*, he has, in our opinion, a title to the reputation of an excellent didactic writer; and he may fairly be reckoned among the foremost of those, who, in our time, have done much towards giving an air of literature to juridical writings.

We shall now proceed to give an account of the various articles which compose these arguments and collections.

The first article is a professional opinion given by Mr. H. on the case of Mr. Butler and Mr. Bond. These gentlemen had, on March 1, 1793, by the House of Lords of Ireland, for a gross contempt and high breach of their privilege, in publishing a libel against that house, been committed to the prison of Newgate in Dublin for six months, and fined 500*l.* each. These gentlemen, and their partisans, *the United Irishmen* (a set of men since branded with infamy) felt little disposition to acquiesce in the exercise of a special authority, always viewed with jealousy, and in order to obtain some legal ground to proceed upon, a case was laid before Mr. Hargrave, containing five questions; the substance of which was,

1. Whether the imprisonment and fine were warranted; 2. and whether the parties were entitled to be discharged by any, and what jurisdiction, either before or after the prorogation; 3. whether the time was to be reckoned by lunar or calendar months, and from the date of the order of commitment, or by relation to the first day of the session; 4. and whether the House of Lords can administer an oath; 5. and an indictment lie for perjury on such false swearing.

The sum of Mr. H.'s opinion, in answer to these points of discussion and difficulty, is in favour of the proceedings of the House of Lords, as warranted by the usage of both Houses of Parliament in Great Britain; and, therefore, if the case had happened here, it would, in his opinion, have been conformable with the law and constitution of the realm.

Mr.

Mr. H. has cited all the leading precedents applicable to this important inquiry, and has entered into the examination of some of them with freedom and liberality of sentiment; and yet without deviating from that respect for authority and usage, which every lawyer is bound to entertain. The manner of this may be seen in the following extract.

“ Thus considering the present case, as if it had arisen in England, and as if the commitment had been by our house of lords, and thus adverting to our law and custom of parliament in cases of privilege and contempt, I cannot undertake to say, that the imprisonment and fine in question are illegal. What might be the result of a more minute investigation than the one I have made for the purpose of this case, I am far from certain. But according to my present impressions, I should scarce expect to advance further against the proceeding, than being more able to exemplify the occasional excesses of our two houses of parliament, in the exercise of their jurisdiction over privilege and contempts, and more confirmed in my doubts of the power of imprisoning beyond the session and of the power of fining. That any person should be more jealous of and averse to, than I am at present, all extension of so peculiar and absolute a jurisdiction as that of the two houses, over offences against their privileges, and over contempts of their proceedings; that any person should be more convinced of the wisdom of not resorting to such a judicative power, except in cases of great necessity; that any person should be more anxious to see those possessed of this high jurisdiction confining it within its more antient bounds; or that any person should be more apprehensive of the danger of exerting its power of punishing beyond mere imprisonment for the session; I feel to be scarce possible. But there are occasions, upon which our constitution, favorable as it is to liberty, entrusts very high and something like absolute powers, out of the ordinary line and course of our law and government. Of this description are the king's power of laying embargoes at the ports, and other branches of the royal prerogative. Such is the power of attaching for contempts, which belongs to our chief courts of justice. Such also, as I conceive, are the judicative powers of our two houses of parliament, in respect of privilege and contempts. But these, and the like extraordinary powers, are given from a sort of necessity, which belongs to the particular case. Whilst also they are resorted to only under the compulsion of the extremity for which they are a provision, and whilst being called into exercise, they are exerted with all possible tenderness, they fulfil the purpose intended without administering any just cause of odium, and are likely to continue undisturbed. But it is natural to see such powers with a jealous eye; and when stretched in the exercise, they alarm and disgust those over whom they are exercisable; and the result often is the entire destruction of a useful and perhaps necessary policy, or such an excessive curtailment as threatens to render the policy vain and ineffectual.” P. 10.

In another passage, Mr. H. comments in the following manner, upon the seeming concurrence of opinion (in Crosby's
K k 2 case,

case, the Lord Mayor of London) not only of Lord Mansfield and Lord Chief Justice De Grey separately, but afterwards of the whole Courts of Common Pleas and Exchequer, or at least of the former Court, against the right of the Courts of Westminster, *even to examine* into the legality of a commitment by either House of Parliament for a contempt.

" In that case the person committed by the commons was a member of that house. But though the case was on that account more strong in favor of the commitment, yet the reasoning of the judges of the common pleas most avowedly extends to commitments of others as well of members. Nay, the reasoning is still more comprehensive: for, according to Sir William Blackstone's report of the case, commitments for contempts by the courts of Westminster hall are equally unexaminable on a habeas corpus. I am myself far from being convinced, that commitments for contempts, by a house of parliament, or by the highest court of judicature in Westminster hall, either ought to be or are thus wholly privileged from all examination and appeal. It will appear also from the Ailesbury case, which I have already referred to, that in thus hesitating about such wide and unqualified doctrine as imprisonment for contempts, I not only have the decided opinion of that great lawyer, lord chief justice Holt, to countenance me, but am justified by the solemn resolution of our house of lords, against the proceedings of the commons on the habeas corpus remedy in the very same case, unless that resolution shall be so construed as to extract from it all its spirit and significance. Besides, I can imagine cases so strong, that should they occur, it would put such doctrine to a severe test. Suppose, that for a breach of privilege or contempt our house of lords should sentence a person to work in Bridewell for his life, as was actually done by the lords in 1624 in one of the cases I have before cited from their journals; that this breach of privilege should be suing a writ of habeas corpus to examine the legality of a former commitment by the lords; and that so extraordinary a case should fully appear on the return of a habeas corpus in the king's bench. Upon such a case, more especially if parliament was not sitting, would not the court reconsider this doctrine of the unappealable and unexaminable nature of commitment for contempts? Suppose again, that a rash lord chancellor, provoked by insolent and threatening language addressed to him in his office, or by the most contumacious and insolent disobedience of a just order of the court of chancery, should in the moment of passion so far forget himself and the limits of his power of punishing for contempts, as to commit the offender to the Fleet prison for his life, or to be whipped and pilloried with imprisonment for ten or twenty years: Would all the courts of common law in Westminster hall, when the return to a habeas corpus brought such a case before them, instantly say to the prisoner, " We are bound by the authorities to shut our eyes to the apparent illegality of the sentence and imprisonment; and gross as we must confess the case to be, it is irrelievable." These are very strong cases to put. Even stronger cases are possible; and in argument one hath a right to put the strongest. But those I put are sufficient to exhibit the extreme latitude of the doctrine

doctrine I thus venture upon examining, and to render assent and acquiescence at least difficult. If too, the doctrine of contempts be thus wide; if the house of lords or commons, or the court of chancery, or any of the great courts of Westminster hall, may construe what they please into contempts, and may under that denomination, without trial by jury, convict all persons of crime, and have also an indefinite power of punishing by fine and imprisonment; and if all this when done be thus unappealable and thus unexaminable, what is there, but their own wisdom and moderation, and the danger of abusing so arbitrary a power, to prevent the house of lords, or the house of commons, or any court of Westminster hall, under shelter of the law of contempts, from practising all the monstrous tyranny, which first disgraced and at length overwhelmed the Star Chamber? It will not appear surprizing, that thus seeing the consequences of making commitments for contempt wholly unappealable and unexaminable, I should avow my doubts of the doctrine in the full and unqualified terms of it." P. 14.

When despotism and arbitrary power are the subject, all the jealousy of our patriots is directed against the power of the crown, and the abuses to which it is liable; but Mr. H. has presented to us here, the *possibility* of a despotism more arbitrary, and more powerful, than that of the crown a hundred fold; and yet one, that is established beyond question, by the law and constitution of the realm. No act of the crown, but may be examined, and if illegal, may be reversed by a court of judicature; no act of a court of judicature, but may be revised in one way or other, before some established authority; but either house of parliament may make itself judge in its own causes, in matters that, in their nature, are likely to excite heat, and blind the judgment; and yet their resolutions are unappealable and unexaminable. If those houses were not governed by moderation, wisdom, and good sense, the liberties of Englishmen may be brought into hazard daily, under the pretence of privilege, and yet not a tittle of magna charta or the bill of rights be violated. Should such unpropitious times arrive, when men run mad with the exercise of a brief authority, where are Englishmen to look, but to the crown, which has the power of dissolving the parliament, and giving the people an opportunity of making a new choice of persons more deserving their confidence? So admirably have our ancestors balanced the authorities in our constitution, that the power which, for wise purposes, is the only one that is undefined and irresponsible, should also be the most transient and precarious; and its duration is only for a term, and that term may be cut short at any time.

The second article in this collection, contains two arguments delivered by Mr. H. in the Court of Chancery, in the case

case of *Scot and Vernon*, in which he had to maintain, that a condition, annexed to a legacy of money, requiring a young woman to marry with the consent of her mother, is a good condition, and such as the law will enforce. In the devise of real property, such conditions, not actually prohibiting marriage, but subjecting the parties to certain restraints, and obliging a compliance with certain circumstances, had been sustained by our courts. But it has long been a doctrine of our courts of equity, that in the bequest of personal property, such conditions are to be considered as only *in terrorem*, and in fact without operation at all, unless where, upon breach of the condition, the legacy is given over to another person. Mr. H. had to controvert this doctrine of *in terrorem*, which he has done in a very masterly manner; by examining the practice of the civil law, and of our ecclesiastical jurisdictions, from which this doctrine was supposed to have been originally derived to our courts of equity; and by showing in what a strange manner the courts of equity have, at the same time, adopted this doctrine, and yet, in some measure, avoided it; whence Mr. H. is led to contend, that although there might be authorities which seem to fix it irrevocably in case of conditions *subsequent*, there still remained an opening for exempting from its operation conditions *precedent*, like the one in question. The result of this cause was, that Lord Thurlow decreed in support of the condition. It does not appear from the printed report of the case (2 Bro. Cha. Cas. 431) that his Lordship entered at all into the distinction between conditions *precedent* and *subsequent*; but sustained the present condition, upon the principle, that all conditions, not imposing restraints repugnant to the policy of our law, concerning marriage, ought to be supported by the courts.

The third and fourth articles contain two arguments written by Mr. H. for the late Duke of Chandos, upon the occasion of a long litigation in the Irish courts, where the Duke was called upon to renew a lease of the manor of Villiers in Ireland, which purported to be renewable for ever, and which had been granted by a collateral relation of the Duke. These arguments contain discussions upon several legal points of great importance; upon the *execution of powers*, especially those of leasing and renewing leases; the *assent* of the lessee in the life time of the lessor; the doctrine of *relief* to supply such deficiency; the *effect of acceptance of rent*; the distinction between *void and voidables*; the *statutes against fraudulent conveyances*; *voluntary settlements*; the effect of *notice*; the granting of relief in equity against *lapse of time*; and (which less concerns the English

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student) the effect of the registry acts ; which, after all, made the principal point in this cause.

The first argument is a legal one, and was successful ; the other is wholly equitable, and was to save the Duke's title, which had been established at law, from being defeated in a court of equity. A suit was commenced in the Court of Exchequer, and an issue was directed for trying a question of *notice*, as connected with the registry act ; from this order there was an appeal to the House of Lords, and after the cause had undergone much debate, and there was a difference of opinion among the judges, the parties came to a compromise, which was carried into execution by an act of the Irish legislature. Through the principal part of this adjustment, it seems Mr. H. was consulted ; and he received great compliments from the Duke's lawyers in Ireland, for the learned assistance thus furnished to them, and more particularly for his argument on the matters of equity.

The fifth article consists of two arguments delivered by Mr. H. in favour of Mr. Myddleton, of Chirk Castle, in the suit he brought against his son and his trustees, to rescind a settlement, on the ground that in acceding to it, he had acted under *error* as to the extent of his rights, and had been won into the bargain by deception. The principal part of both arguments, is employed on the particular circumstances of the case ; but there is, in the second, some general considerations on relief in equity, against conveyances founded on *error*, or upon that species of *fraud*, which may be considered as *pious*, inasmuch as it is to serve the general interest of a family, and even of the party who is over-reached. This is one of those causes, which Mr. H. took up with a zeal and sensibility almost peculiar to himself ; and through the whole of these arguments, we discover an interest and warmth beyond the pitch of a mere law-argument. Mr. Myddleton, the father, had, by expence, and two successive imprudent marriages, given alarm to the other branches of his family, who took an interest in the welfare of the son, and the other issues of the first marriage ; these persons at length prevailed with the old gentleman to consent to a settlement of the family estate, which would considerably diminish his income, and abridge his power over it. The father now sought to be relieved from this restraint ; and Mr. H. indignant that the Lord of Chirk Castle should be a pensioner on his trustees, entered into the merits of the case with great warmth, and very honourably to his feelings. He thought the pious fraud of an over-prudent son less deserving of consideration, in a court of equity, than the errors of an improvident father. Mr. H. did not succeed in prevailing with the

the court to join him in this sentiment; and the settlement (made, it seems, with the advice of Lord Kenyon) was suffered to continue in full force. Both father and son have since paid the debt of nature, and the great property in question is descended to three daughters, by two venters, as heirs female in tail, under a remainder limited to the father.

The sixth article is a professional opinion, given by Mr. Hargrave, on the claims which the Duke of Athol supposes himself to have, in respect of the Isle of Man, notwithstanding the sanction given to what Mr. H. calls the reluctant sale of it to the Crown, in the year 1765.

The seventh article contains a short history of legislative acts for appropriating the supplies granted by Parliament.

The eighth article is on the right which the subject has of demanding a writ of error in criminal proceedings for misdemeanors. This research was, we believe, made on the occasion of Mr. Atkinson's case, so well known in Westminster-Hall.

The ninth article is an argument upon another Irish case, of a lease renewable for ever, a sort of estate very common in Ireland. The present question arose on a lease of this sort, that had been renewed, according to the covenant, by an ancestor of the present Lord Inchiquin, who was only tenant for life; the present Lord contested the validity of this renewal, in the Court of Chancery in Ireland; but the lease was supported by the Chancery. After this, Mr. H. was consulted, when he drew up this argument for the use of Lord Inchiquin's counsel in Ireland. What is here urged by Mr. H. no doubt strengthened them in the determination to apply to the House of Lords, to revise the decree of the Chancellor; and, it appears, that either upon these, or other grounds, the Lords reversed the decree of the Chancellor.

The tenth article is the argument delivered by Mr. H. on the petition before Lord Thurlow, for rehearing the case of Sir Robert Mackreth. Notwithstanding what Mr. H. then urged, the petition was dismissed without hearing the counsel against it; on the ground, as Mr. H. supposes, that the appeal from the Master of the Rolls to the Chancellor, must be considered as a rehearing, and that the present must, therefore, be taken to be a second rehearing, which could not be allowed, and the proper remedy was an appeal to the Lords.

The eleventh article consists of two arguments delivered in the Court of Exchequer, in support of a plea of the corporation of Liverpool; the object of which was, to try whether the claim of the citizens and freemen of London, to be exempt from ancient tolls and duties throughout England, extends to

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non-resident freemen. It seems this cause, after very long argument upon the merits, and also the pleadings, went off, upon a sort of consent; so that Mr. H. says, the extent of the London exemption still remains unadjudged.

The twelfth article is an opinion of Mr. H. against the admissibility of two votes, at the election of the sixteen Peers for Scotland, in July, 1790.

The thirteenth and last article, consists of the reasons Mr. H. had proposed to be suggested in the printed case for Sir Robert Mackreth, who had now appealed from the decree of Lord Thurlow, to the House of Lords. Mr. H. complains, that these reasons were wholly disapproved by the gentleman who was the leading counsel in the cause; and who substituted, in their place, others of his own. In this cause Mr. H. is known, and he himself confesses, to have acted with "a zealous anxiety;" but all his labours, and those of his coadjutors, were unsuccessful; for the decree of the Chancellor was affirmed. Such are the various articles composing this volume; to the whole of which is subjoined an APPENDIX of Papers, applicable to the matter of the preceding articles.

We cannot express our thanks to Mr. H. for the donation he has made to the profession, by this volume, without reminding him of a former obligation he has contracted with them, and has not yet discharged. The first volume of a *Collection of Tracts*, has not been followed by any other; and, in the mean time, two distinct publications, namely, Lord Hale's Jurisdiction of the House of Lords, and the present volume, both in quarto, and both very suitable sequels to the first, seem to intimate, that the intended Collection is to proceed no further. After the satisfaction we have expressed at Mr. H.'s endeavours to add to the stock of legal information, he will excuse, we hope, the liberty we take in complaining of this disappointment.

ART. II. *The Principles of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy. In Four Volumes. Vol. I. [Containing] the Elements of Algebra: designed for the Use of Students in the University. By James Wood, B. D. Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge. 8vo. 307 pp. 5s. Deighton, &c. Cambridge; Rivingtons, &c. London. 1798.*

THEY who are well acquainted with the human faculties, and have tried the efforts of constant industry, need not be told, that where much is to be remembered, something will occasionally

occasionally be forgotten; and where much is to be done, something will be omitted. Nor are Reviewers less liable to hinderances in their business by sickness than other men. Add to this, that authors themselves sometimes occasion delays in reviewing their works, by giving us reason to expect second, third, and fourth volumes soon, which do not appear till after a long interval. It is undoubtedly more convenient to us to review the whole of a work at once, when our thoughts are turned to it, than to be often recalled from our other labours to the same subject. We have been led into these reflections by receiving the second edition of this volume before we had reviewed the first; which the causes above stated have, in their various degrees, conspired to occasion.

The necessity which called for a work of this kind, is explained in an Advertisement prefixed to the present volume, which is as follows:

“The present work is intended to comprize the substance of the lectures, in Mathematics and Natural Philosophy, which are usually read in the University. The want of a system of this kind having been long complained of, Mr. Vince and the author of this first volume agreed to undertake the work jointly; the former engaging to draw up the Fluxions, Hydrostatics, and Astronomy; and the latter, the Algebra, Mechanics, and Optics. That the whole might form one system, the parts drawn up by each were submitted to the consideration of the other, and such alterations and additions made, as were thought necessary by both.”

Books on any art which receives frequent improvements, must, from time to time, want revision, correction, and augmentation; and it is well known to those who are acquainted with the history of the sciences, that Mathematics and Natural Philosophy have been in a progressive state in Europe for many ages; that they received their greatest improvements at Cambridge, towards the end of the last century, from Sir Isaac Newton; and that they have been much cultivated since that time, both on the continent and in the British Islands, but no where with more assiduity than in the University of Cambridge. Without recounting the names of those who have been eminent for skill in these parts of learning in France, Italy, Switzerland, Germany, and Russia, as well as of those who have excelled in our own country, or enumerating the different courses of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy which have been published, we shall observe, that the present times afford plenty of good materials for a new course; and that the books must be valuable in proportion to the judgment shown in the selection, and the care employed in the arrangement of the materials of which they are composed. From
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the advertisement prefixed to the present work, we must naturally expect that it will be very good, since the materials of it are selected, first by the different tutors in the University, and secondly by the compilers of it, who themselves have had many years experience in teaching. Nor have our expectations been disappointed by the perusal of the first volume, which consists of an *Introduction, and four Parts*; of the contents of which we shall now give a particular account.

The *Introduction* contains, in 23 pages, a brief but clear Treatise on Vulgar and Decimal Fractions.

Part I, which extends from p. 23 to p. 130, contains *Definitions—Explanation of Signs—Axioms—Rules for the Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication, and Division of Algebraic Quantities*, all very clearly expressed, and plainly and neatly demonstrated. Then follow *Algebraic Fractions—Involution and Evolution—Simple Equations—Quadratic Equations—Ratios—Proportion—Variable Quantities—Arithmetical Progression—Geometrical Progression—Permutations and Combinations—The Binomial Theorem—Surds*.

This part of the work is, in general, very well executed; the rules being perspicuous, the demonstrations elegant, and the selection of problems, for the exercise of the learner, made with judgment.

In perusing it, however, we have remarked, that the definition of an equation, in p. 64, which stands thus: "If one quantity be equal to another, *or to nothing*, and this equality be expressed algebraically, it constitutes an equation," would be simpler, and better suited to the capacity of learners, if the clause which we have printed in italics were omitted. In p. 68, the verb *involve* is used to signify *contain*. The passage is this: "If there be two independent simple equations *involving* two unknown quantities, they may be reduced to one which *involves* only one of the unknown quantities, by any of the following methods." As the word *involve* has an appropriate signification in Mathematics, which is, *to multiply any quantity by itself any given number of times*, we think the passage would be better understood by learners, if it ran thus: "If there be two independent simple equations, in each of which there are two unknown quantities, these two equations may be reduced to one equation, in which there is only one of the unknown quantities." What is here said on Permutations and Combinations*, which appears to have been introduced on purpose

* The doctrine of Permutations and Combinations is very fully and clearly treated of in an 8vo. volume of Mathematical Tracts, published

purpose to investigate the Binomial Theorem, as well as the investigation of the Theorem itself, seems to be too short to be satisfactory to a young student; and therefore we wish to see these points treated a little more fully in a future edition.

These slight alterations which we have here pointed out, will, we doubt not, meet with the approbation of the ingenious writer of this volume, as our noticing them arises only from a wish to see the work as perfect as he seems to have intended it. We have already expressed our approbation of this part of the volume, and have no scruple in adding, that the Elements of Algebra are more clearly and scientifically explained in it than in any other treatise that has come to our hands.

The materials of the *Second Part*, which extends from p. 130 to p. 198, are arranged under the following titles, and in the order here mentioned. 1. *The Nature of Equations.* 2. *The Transformation of Equations.* 3. *The Limits of the Roots of Equations.* 4. *The Depressiōn of Equations.* 5. *The Solution of Recurring Equations.* 6. *The Solution of a Cubic Equation by Cardan's Rule.* 7. *Des Cartes's Solution of a Biquadratic Equation.* 8. *Dr. Waring's Solution of a Biquadratic Equation.* 9. *The Method of Divisors.* 10. *The Method of Approximation.* 11. *The Reversion of Series.* 12. *The Sums of the Powers of the Roots of an Equation.* 13. *On the Impossible Roots of an Equation.*

From the number of subjects, and of these several of confessed difficulty, here introduced in 67 pages, it is evident that some of them must be treated in a concise manner. We think that what is said on *the Nature of Equations*, and on *the Reversion of Series*, is not enough to be satisfactory to a learner. Mr. Wood does indeed refer his reader to Dr. Waring, for further information on the former of these subjects, and to M. Laurin on the latter; but we think Dr. Waring's writings are, in general, too concise to be put into the hands of any student of Algebra till he has made a great progress in it; and we should have been glad to see the nature of Equations treated more fully by Mr. Wood himself.

We have also to remark, that Dr. Waring's *Solution of a Biquadratic Equation, by Means of a Cubic*, is founded upon the same principle as Lewis Ferrari's *Solution of it*, and can

published by Mr. Baron Maseres in 1795, where the learner may find a very easy demonstration of the Binomial Theorem. That Theorem is likewise demonstrated in a neat and masterly manner in the Philosophical Transactions for 1795, by the Rev. Abraham Robertson, A. M. now Savilian Professor of Geometry at Oxford.

be considered as nothing more than a general solution of a Biquadratic by Ferrari's method.

To these remarks we have to add, that, among the particulars contained in this part of the volume, which we have perused with pleasure, are articles 295 and 339; the former of which, as it is short, we will transcribe; and recommend the perusal of the latter to all who have occasion to find the roots of equations by approximation.

"If $a, b, c, \dots d$, &c. be the roots of an equation taken in order, that is a greater than b , b greater than c , &c. the equation is $x - a, x - b, x - c, x + d$, &c. $= 0$; and if a quantity greater than a be substituted for x , as every factor is, on this supposition, positive, the result will be positive; if a quantity less than a , but greater than b , be substituted, the result will be negative, because the first factor will be negative and the rest positive. If a quantity between b and c be substituted, the result will again be positive, because the two first factors are negative and the rest positive, and so on. Thus, quantities which are limits to the roots of an equation, if substituted for the unknown quantity, give results alternately positive and negative."

Lastly, we have to remark, on this part of the volume, that it contains much valuable instruction, and that several of the subjects are treated in a manner sufficiently full and clear to answer the purpose of learners.

The *Third Part* of the volume now before us begins at p. 198, and ends at p. 275; and the contents of it are: 1. *On Unlimited Problems*. 2. *On Continued Fractions*. 3. *The Value of a Fraction whose Numerator and Denominator are evanescent*. 4. *The least Common Multiple*. 5. *On the Extraction of the Roots of Binomial Surds*. 6. *On Logarithms*. 7. *On Interest and Annuities*. 8. *On the Summation of Series*. 9. *On Chances*. 10. *On Life Annuities*.

Here again we find no less than ten subjects, and of these also several that are difficult, brought into 77 pages; in consequence of which, some of them are treated very concisely. For instance, all that is said on Logarithms is contained in three pages. References however are made to other books on the subjects which are here briefly treated; and this part of the volume may be said to contain a considerable quantity of valuable matter.

In the *Fourth Part* of this volume, which begins at p. 276, *Algebra is applied to Geometry*. The contents are: 1. *On the Nature of Curves*. 2. *On the Construction of Equations*. 3. *General Properties of Curve Lines*.

Under the first title there is a clear explanation of what is meant by *Abscissa*, *Ordinate*, and *Equation of a Curve*; and the method of finding such equations is shown by finding those
which

which belong to the *Parabola*, *Ellipsis*, and *Hyperbola*, and those which belong to *Curves* of an higher order than the *Conic Sections*.

Under the second title, the construction of *Quadratic Equations*, by means of a Circle, is shown; and the construction of *Cubic and Biquadratic Equations*, by means of a Circle and Parabola.

Under the third title, an *Equation* belonging to a *Curve* of π dimensions, is given and explained; and, for further information on this subject, the reader is referred to Dr. Waring's *Proprietates Curvarum*, and to Euler's *Analysis Infinitorum*.

Of this part of the work it may be said, that it contains as much matter as could well be brought into 31 pages.

To our particular remarks on the volume now before us, we have to add this general observation. The first part of it is an excellent Elementary Treatise of Algebra, containing as much of that science as ought to be required of any student at his examination for the degree of Bachelor of Arts: the three other parts may be considered as very good abridgments (with some improvements) of several large and much-esteemed Treatises of Algebra; comprising a great deal of curious and useful matter, well arranged, in a small space; affording the student much valuable information at an easy price, and directing him, for further information, to larger books, of established credit, on that science.

ART. III. *A Series of Poems, containing the Complaints, Consolations, and Delights of Achmed Ardebeili, a Persian Exile. With Notes, historical and explanatory. By Charles Fox.* 8vo. 6s. Cadell and Davies. 1797.

A DESULTORY, but not unentertaining Preface, gives the reader of this volume an account of a portion of Persian history, with a partial explanation of some Oriental prejudices and manners. What Mr. Fox says of his original author, Achmed, is much too concise; we must be content with what we can collect from the following detached sentences.

“ In a reign so uncongenial to every thing great and good, it was the lot of Achmed to obtain, through adventitious circumstances, an unexpected rise to favour, fortune, and command, without any departure from principles of integrity.”

Again,

Again,

“ At what period of his reign Achmed was received into favour, or disgraced and banished, does not appear; neither is the name of his ungrateful adversary mentioned.”

And, finally,

“ Even the early habitudes, or the cultivated and reflecting mind of Achmed, seem to have afforded no insuperable barriers against the seductive pomp and luxury of the court, the banquet, and the haram.”

Of a Persian poet, whose productions seem at once to have been so elegant and so numerous, the translator should have provided a more circumstantial history. The performance however is highly respectable; and the Verses uniformly smooth and harmonious. The following specimens are selected with no particular care, or reason of preference.

“ BLISSFUL MOMENTS.

Care enough—enough of Sorrow
Every mortal man has known:
Whilst we think upon to-morrow,
What we call'd to-day is flown.

Yes! 'tis flown, let welcome night, then,
Spread her lunar radiance wide,
Let the goblet of Delight, then,
Pour around its circling tide.

Soon the Morn again shall meet us,
Soon the glorious sun shall rise;
Joys of Day again shall greet us,
When each nightly rapture dies.

Dreary wretch! whose bounded notions,
Loft in sullen fogs of spleen,
Or like tempest-troubled oceans,
Darken with the darken'd scene!

Let us, nobler souls possessing,
If we cannot fight with Fate,
Grasp at bliss, enjoy its blessing,
Tho' of momentary date.

Blissful Moments—still uniting,
Hours—and days—and years compose;
Let us then, new Joys inviting,
Happier moments add to those.

Care, avaunt thee! Envy, perish!
What have we with Grief to do?
Mirth, Good-humour, Love we'll cherish,
Joys embrace, and Joys pursue.” P. 8.

“ DANGERS.

" DANGERS.

The interminable Desert spreads around
 Its cheerless waste, all comfort flies afar :
 Night spreads with giant pace her glooms profound,
 Nor yields the guidance of one glimmering star.

Sad Sinks the heart of Sorrow with dismay ;
 The yells of wandering demons wound the ear ;
 A thousand dangers cross the trackless way,
 And fancied forms at every step appear.

Forms of stupendous frame and ghastly hue
 Seem gliding thro' some deep o'ershadowing wood,
 Burst in dim legions on the uncertain view,
 While in hoarse torrents rolls the foaming flood.

But, ah ! no hoarsely-foaming flood is there,
 To yield refreshment in this dreary waste,
 To the poor wanderer,—let him then prepare
 To meet a danger that may prove his last.

'Twas sure some gust impetuous swept along,
 And raising in its rage the sandy cloud,
 Form'd to the fearful eye that spectred throng,
 And like th' imagined torrent roar'd aloud.

'Tis past !—and Heaven all-merciful ordain'd
 That Achmed should not meet its falling force :
 Else had this poor exhausted frame remain'd
 An unknown victim buried in its course.

Then, 'mid succeeding dangers, wilt thou feel
 One deadly terror dart across thy soul :
 Say, canst thou doubt *that* Power will there prevail,
 Whose energy pervades the mighty whole ?

What's nature's tumult,—man's imagined woe,
 Or the wild workings of distorted will ;
 Whilst Providence in wisdom rules below,
 And all above, his high behests fulfil ?" P. 49.

" TO THE LAMP.

Sweet solace of the dark and dreary hour,
 When active mind eludes the bond of sleep ;
 When brooding Memory would exert her power,
 To make Fate's victim mournful vigils keep.
 Blest was the night, when from her leafy throne,
 The wandering Glow-worm gave the hint of *thee*,
 Yielding a joy to Achmed long unknown,
 A new delight to Health and Liberty.

This wild recess by Art commodious made,
Secur'd from damps, and screen'd from wintry wind,
Ev'n noon-day radiance would in vain pervade,
Yet Midnight, smiling, throws her glooms behind.

In vain her shadowy train to caverns fly,
Whilst beams around the Moon's mild cheerful light:
More clear, more lovely, beams thy lucid eye
To me, than all the lustrous orbs of night.

No more the hideous bat, on scold-like wing,
Shall hold with cries obscene his orgies here;
No more the bird of night his dirges sing,
To demon powers, or scream on Achmed's ear.

In beetled forms those demon powers, no more
With ceaseless whirl shall break my calm repose,
Nor, darkling to my anguish'd soul restore
The direful register of distant woes.

Ye sluggish hours, oppress'd with wintry gloom,
'Mid your chill horrors sink the languid frame:
Deep throbs the heart, as tho' impending doom
Hung in dank vapour o'er my vital flame.

Such often was the lonely exile's state,
Ere heaven-born Peace could soothe his soul to rest;
Ere thy bright presence thus could compensate
The loss of many a joy his youth possess'd.

For ah! one comfort in the hour of ill,
One soothing Friend when Fortune adverse proves,
Beside this grot, the pure, tho' scanty rill,
Outweighs the world's false smile, its joys, and loves.

Here might the idly great, abash'd, survey
Of needful industry th' untutor'd skill,
The rush-work curtain, and the slender spray,
Rudely entwin'd, but use-directed still.

There might they see the wicker-woven door
Closing the entrance of my inmost cell;
The moss-form'd bed, the smooth-compacted floor,
Where Luxury's self might inly sigh to dwell.

There, often too, thy rays, blest Lamp, diffuse
Their cheering influence thro' the wakeful night,
Nor will the soothing power of sleep refuse
To smile complacent on thy sober light.

Ne'er may the wintry gulf's unhallow'd breath
Consign thy transient beam to darkness and to death." P. 184.

The Notes which accompany these Poems, are denominated
in the Preface, historical and explanatory. They are neither

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very

very important nor numerous; but, being drawn from oriental literature, have the means to interest curiosity. We conclude our account of the work with one of the Notes.

"Gergestan, *عوجستان* The country of Georgia, lying between the Black Sea and the Persian province of Shirvan, that extends along the western shore of the Caspian. It is a very rugged and mountainous tract of country, abounding with savage animals of various kinds; therefore the herdsmen who pasture their cattle on the mountains, are obliged to be very vigilant. The valleys are fruitful, and the inhabitants raise vast quantities of silk-worms, though they manufacture but little of their produce. The Georgians are in general stout well-grown men, and of a warlike disposition. They profess a kind of Christianity, that however scarcely deserves the name; and its deficiencies unhappily are not compensated by moral character;—for they are said to be brutal in their manners, and given to robbery and drunkenness,—making it even a frequent practice to steal each other's children, particularly females, for the purpose of selling them as slaves to the Turks and Persians. Their women, with those of Circassia, are reputed to be the most beautiful in Asia; and are for that reason eagerly sought, and purchased for large sums, by the rich voluptuaries of Persia and Turkey, who pride themselves much on obtaining them for their harems;—but, from a total deficiency of education, their manners would *ill* accord with that personal beauty which is spoken of with so much enthusiasm,—were it not that those who pursue the infamous traffic of purchasing for sale these young females from the wretches that steal them, find it their interest to get them taught a few *exterior* accomplishments, that may afterwards enhance their price." P. 134.

ART. IV. *Monck Mason on Beaumont and Fletcher.*

(*Supplemental Remark on page 410 of our last.*)

SINCE we mentioned that *the Wildgoose Chase* of Beaumont and Fletcher appears in the second folio, without any notice when or how it was recovered, we have met with a copy of the former folio, with the first edition of that play bound up with it. It is a folio of 56 pages, printed in 1652, by the same printer, *Humphrey Moseley*; but the editors are Lowin and Taylor, two actors, then silenced. As this play was published separately, and not exactly uniform with the folio of 1647, nor any where mentioned as supplemental to it, the forbearance of the editors of 1679*, in not marking it as added by themselves, is the more peculiar. Theobald had this first edition in his hands,

* N. B. By an error of the press, this was made 1676, in our list, p. 409.

and mentions it in one of his notes, where he alters "When I *was* sometimes," to "When I *am*;" on the authority of that copy. He speaks of it thus :

"The change of the tense seem'd necessary here, before I saw the copy of 1652. The copy of 1652, which I shall have occasion to mention more than once in the course of my notes upon the *Wild goose Chase*, is but that of this single play of Mr. Fletcher's, recovered from a desperate state (all the world giving it over for lost) by two players, *Lowin* and *Taylor*, who, by putting it to the press, took the only means of preserving this celebrated piece of our author, and consulted their own present emolument, as well as provided for the future delight of all lovers of true wit. The editor of the folio of 1679," he adds, "has been tolerably careful in collating this copy."

The edition of 1652 is afterwards mentioned five times, in Theobald's or Sympfon's notes.

The Dedication of *Lowin* and *Taylor*, which is addressed "to the honour'd Few, Lovers of *Drammatick Poese*," is occupied entirely in the praises of the piece, and complaints of their hard lot, as players, in those inauspicious times, which had compelled them to be *Mutes*; and gives no account how the play had been recovered. The title-page runs thus :

"The *Wildgoose Chase*, a Comedie. As it hath been acted with singular Applause at the Black-Friers: being the noble, last, and onely Remaines of those incomparable *Drammatists*, Francis Beaumont, and John Fletcher, Gent. Retriev'd for the publick Delight of all the Ingenious; and private Benefit of John Lowin, and Joseph Taylor, Servants to his late Majestie. By a Person of Honour. *Ita bonis avibus*. London, printed for Humphery Moseley, and are to be sold at the *Prince's Armes*, in St. Pauls Church Yard, 1652."

Nothing more can be learned from that source concerning the recovery of this play, on which Farquhar founded his lively comedy of the *Inconstant*. We shall only add, that Taylor was the actor who had performed the part of *Mirabell*, and Lowin that of *Belleur*. There is nothing in Mr. Mason's remarks on this play that is particularly worthy of notice; except that, in p. 196, he conjectures that we should read "a *glade* to catch woodcocks," instead of a *glode*; which is thus completely confirmed by Willughby. "We in England are wont to make great *glades* through the woods, and hang nets across them: and so the woodcocks shooting through the *glades* as their nature is, strike against the nets and are entangled in them." *Ornithol.* B. I. Ch. 3. The English translation of the *Dictionnaire Oeconomique*, usually called "Bradley's Family Dictionary," speaks similarly of *glades*, under the article Woodcock.

ART. V. *The Republican Judge; or the American Liberty of the Press, as exhibited, explained, and-exposed, in the Case and partial Prosecution of William Cobbett, for a pretended Libel against the King of Spain and his Ambassador, before the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania. With an Address to the People of England. By Peter Porcupine. 8vo. 96 pp. 2s. Wright, Piccadilly. 1798.*

AS we had the satisfaction of being the first persons to introduce this very meritorious writer to the notice of the English public*, we are by no means disposed to lose sight of him. They who chose at that time to doubt of his existence, would be very glad, if they could, to disprove it now; but, to their annoyance, and to the vexation of all Jacobins, he undoubtedly exists; and has done more towards the subversion of the French interest in America, and consequently toward restoring the ancient cordiality between that country and Great Britain, than could possibly have been expected from the efforts of any single writer. Truth,—Truth was with him; and what can long subsist against the powers of Truth and Honesty?

As this pamphlet commences with an Address to the People of England, it seems the indispensable duty of an English Reviewer to lay that Address at large before his countrymen. What weight they will allow to it, they must for themselves decide; but the literary reporter should, by all means, give it as he finds it.

“ Address to the People of England.

“ Gentlemen,

“ Since your ancient and inveterate enemy, the French, have planned the destruction of your government, as the sure means of subjecting you to their power, their wicked and detestable agents have used various arts to seduce you from that loyal attachment, which forms its principal bulwark. Amongst these arts, that of extolling the excellence of *Republican Governments* has not been omitted, and I wish I could say, it had been used without effect. At first, France was held up as the model for you to imitate; but, *there*, facts soon gave the lie to the statements of her tools; facts which they could not disguise, which spoke to you in the cries of misery, and in the shrieks of torture and of death. But, America was a more distant scene, and a scene too which the pencil of partiality had already painted in the most flattering colours. When, therefore, you were disgusted and shocked at the horrid view exhibited in France, *bah!* your eyes were directed for an *example*.

* See our account of his Remarks on the Emigration of Dr. Priestley. *Brit. Crit.* vol. iv, p. 498.

“ I have

" I have often been astonished, that those writers, who have so ably stood forth as the champions of your government and constitution, have never made more than very slight attempts to undeceive you in this respect. They have constantly confined themselves to *France*; but their opponents have replied (and with some degree of plausibility), that *France* is yet in an *unsettled state*; that *America* exhibited the happy effects of a *finished revolution*; that such *France* would be; and *Britain* also, if revolutionized into a *republic*. Here the parties were fairly at issue, and the friends of your country had as good an opportunity as they could wish for, to beat their opponents on their own ground. But instead of accepting the challenge thus offered, they have forborne to push their advantage, and declined the contest, when certain of victory. Whence does this forbearance proceed? Is it from a spurious liberality, alike remote from genuine fortitude and manly condescension; alike hostile to principle, and repugnant to duty? From whatever source it proceeds, its consequences are much to be deplored; for it tends to nothing less than a tacit admission, that the people of *America* enjoy more *liberty* and *happiness* than those of Great Britain: a concession dangerous in the extreme, and not less dangerous than weak and unjustifiable.

" A long continued series of received and uncontradicted falsehoods cannot fail to produce an accumulation of prejudices, which it becomes extremely difficult to remove; and, as its removal can never be effected but by *facts*, it requires an assiduity and a toil, to which talents scorn to submit, and at the very sight of which genius takes her flight. Yet, there now and then arises, in our island, an obstinately persevering mortal, favoured neither by nature nor by education, regardless alike of interest and of fame, and destitute of every stimulus to action, except that love of his country which every true-born Englishman sucks in with his mother's milk:—such a man might undeceive you; and such a man am I.

" To prove to you, that you are *happier* and *more free* than the people of *America*, and to do it by uncontrovertible *facts*, is what, with the permission of God, I pledge myself to perform. But this must be a work of time. The pamphlet which I here present you is nothing more than a trifling essay: a sort of introduction to what you have to expect. I beseech you, however, to read it with attention, and, as you proceed, lay your hands upon your hearts and say, if the proceedings it records had taken place in *England*, whether you would not have looked upon your king as a despot, and yourselves as the most degraded of slaves.

" In nothing that I have said, do I wish to satirize the people of this country in general. There is as great a proportion of good men here as in *England*, a much greater proportion than there is any where else; but, they are borne down by thousands of aspiring demagogues, who are continually troubling the source, and interrupting the current, of their liberties and their happiness. To guard you against this evil; to caution you against the adoption of a mischief of such mighty magnitude, is the sole object I have in view. Were I a native *American*, so do this would be my duty. He who feels himself sinking into an abyss, and neglects to warn his neighbours of their danger,

ger, is justly accused of selfishness, if not of cruelty : but, he who is guilty of this neglect towards *his friends and his family*, is a rebel against nature, that merits the malediction of his parents, and the abhorrence of mankind.

Philadelphia, }
April 10th, 1798. }

PETER PORCUPINE."

The case of Peter was this. In his newspaper, entitled *the Porcupine*, he published a severe censure upon the King of Spain. This the Spanish Minister, Don Carlos Martinez de Yrujo, represented as matter deserving prosecution. Thus far all was regular, and no more than might have happened in England. But Peter was bound over to appear in the Federal District Court, and with this the Spanish minister was not satisfied. He delivered in a memorial to the Federal Government, requesting that the trial might come on before the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania.—This was brought about by means of a bill of indictment, prepared by the Attorney-General of Pennsylvania. Here commences the grievance. Of the Supreme Court of that province, the Chief-Justice is one M'Kean; a man, according to the representation of Peter, of a most infamous character : undoubtedly a strong friend to the French interest, which amounts nearly to the same thing. This M'Kean, in his charge to the Grand Jury, thought proper not only to expatiate on the doctrine of libels, in a manner very unfavourable to the liberty of the press, as understood in America, but went so far, as personally to point out Peter to the Grand Jury as an object of punishment. This part of his charge was conceived in the following terms.

" At a time when misunderstandings prevail between the Republics of the United States and France, and when our general government have appointed public ministers to endeavour their removal, and restore the former harmony, some of the journals or newspapers in the city of Philadelphia have teemed with the most irritating invectives, couched in the most vulgar and opprobrious language, not only against the French nation and their allies, but the very men in power with whom the ministers of our country are sent to negotiate. These publications have an evident tendency not only to frustrate a reconciliation, but to create a rupture, and provoke a war *between the sister Republics*, and seem calculated to vilify, nay, to subvert all *Republican governments* whatsoever.

" *Impressed with the duties of my station*, I have used some endeavours for checking these evils, by binding over the editor and printer of *one of them*, licentious and virulent *beyond all former example*, to his good behaviour; but he still perseveres in his nefarious publications; he has ransacked our language for terms of reproach and insult, and for the basest accusations against every ruler and *distinguished character in France and Spain*, with whom we chance to have any intercourse,

which

which it is scarce in nature to forgive; in brief, he braves his recognition and the laws. It is now with you, gentlemen of the grand jury, to animadvert on his conduct; without *your aid* it cannot be corrected. The government that will not discountenance, may be *thought to adopt it*, and be deemed *justly chargeable with all the consequences*.

"Every nation ought to avoid giving any real offence to another. Some medals and dull jests are mentioned and represented as a ground of quarrel between the English and Dutch in 1672, and likewise caused Lewis the 14th to make an expedition into the United Provinces of the Netherlands in the same year, and nearly ruined the Commonwealth.

"We are sorry to find that our endeavours in this way have not been attended with all the good effects that were expected from them; however we are determined to pursue the prevailing vice of the times with zeal and indignation that crimes may no longer appear less odious for being fashionable, nor the more secure from punishment for being popular." P. 45.

Notwithstanding this effort, not very laudable in a Chief-Justice, the Grand Jury threw out the bill, by returning it *Ignoramus*. At this the Chief-Justice was so angry, that, the next day, in recommending an appeal to the law in case of libel, he said, "you may say indeed that Grand Juries will not now *do their duty*, we have had a recent instance of that." (p. 46) After stating these facts, Peter Porcupine goes on to show, that libels infinitely more virulent than his own, on the opposite side, had passed without any prosecution, and, in every part, illustrates his facts by his own very strong and pointed mode of reasoning.

Adverting to his old friend, Dr. Priestley, and an assertion of his, in a Letter to the People of England, "*Here the press is free; here truth is not a libel*;" he has the following remarkable note.

"The letter, of which I speak here, I have a copy of by me, in a Liverpool paper.—But, since the Doctor wrote that letter, it seems, experience has changed his opinion.—He has suffered the just punishment of his malignancy against his country; he has been cheated, neglected, and scorned. He now is in an obscurity hardly penetrable; he is reduced to poverty, and is bursting with vexation. All this has had an effect; and I will state as a fact, which I call on him to deny, if he can; that he has lately declared, that "*republican governments are the most arbitrary in the world!!!*" P. 78.

Having explained his own complaints with much very appropriate satire, and some strong and sensible opinions concerning publications in this country, (p. 86) Peter Porcupine concludes, as he began, with an address to his countrymen, which is thus worded.

"I have

"I have now accomplished my object. I have exposed the conduct of my enemies, and I have amply proved that the press is more free in Great Britain than it is in America. But, I cannot conclude without, in the fulness of my heart, giving a word or two of advice to my countrymen.—Such, BRITONS, is the fruit of republican government here; not among the apish and wolfish French; but among a people descended from the same ancestors as yourselves. When your *monarchical* government bears such fruit, let it, I say, be hewn down, and cast into the fire; but, till that disgraceful and dreadful day comes, watch over it with care, and defend it to the last drop of your blood: preserve it as you would a golden casket, the apple of your eye, or the last dear gift of your dying parents.—With this I conclude, praying the God of our fathers to lead you in the practice of all their virtues; to give wisdom to your minds, and strength to your arms; to keep you firm and united, honest and generous, loyal, brave, and free; but, above all, to preserve you from the desolating and degrading curse of revolutionary madness and modern *Republicanism*." P. 95.

No judge of literature will read these passages, without some wonder at the singular talents of a man who had no education, except such as, in the capacity of a common soldier in the British army, he could give himself. The mystery, however, is well explained by a writer, whose words happen, at this moment, to lie open on our table. "America has not a more active, zealous, and useful citizen, or Great Britain a warmer friend, than honest Peter. In his literary features he is rather roughly stamped; but he understands the time. He can descant upon the deformity of it, and hold a looking-glass to the world, wherein they may see strange sights. There is a vigour, a simplicity, and an upright intention in his works, which speak to the heart. When nature and honesty are working at the root, the plants will be sound and healthy."

"Lata et fortia surgunt,
Quippe solo Natura subest."

ART. VI. *Reports of the late Mr. John Smeaton, F. R. S. made on various Occasions in the Course of his Employment of an Engineer. Printed for a Select Committee of Civil Engineers, and sold by Mr. Faden, Geographer to His Majesty.*
4to. 412 pp. 18s. 1797.

TO many of our readers, the term *Civil Engineer*, which appears in this title-page, may perhaps require some illustration. An Engineer, in the most general sense, is any contriver or constructor of useful engines and machines; it has usually

usually been limited in its signification, to denote a person superintending military machines of attack, defence, &c. The name of Civil Engineer was, in contradistinction to this, formed or adopted by Mr. Smeaton, to mark that profession in which he was so peculiarly eminent; the contriving of machines for raising or draining water; forming navigable canals, with all their attendant works; constructing or improving harbours; or whatever else may be executed by the application of improved mechanics, to the great natural agents, or elements, fire, water, wind, and earth. Such a profession, under a distinct name, was not known in this country, before the time of Mr. Smeaton. This, we are told in the Preface to this work, was not the case in other polished nations of Europe.

“ Academies, or some parts of such institutions were appropriated to the study of *it*, and of all the preparatory science and accomplishments necessary to form an able artist, whose profession comprehends the variety of objects on which he is employed, and of which the present work is an example and proof.”

The circumstances which led to the formation of a regular Society of Civil Engineers, are thus also explained in the Preface, drawn up by their committee.

“ The origin of the *Society of Civil Engineers* took its rise from the following circumstances. Before or about the year 1760, a new æra in all the arts and sciences, learned and polite, commenced in this country. Every thing which contributes to the comfort, the beauty, and the prosperity of a country moved forward in improvement so rapidly, and so obviously, as to mark that period with particular distinction.

“ The learned societies extended their views, their labours, and their objects of research. The professors of the polite arts associated together, for the first time; and they now enjoy a protection favourable to improvements, and not less honourable to real merit than to the public, and the throne, which have, with one accord, promoted their prosperity.

“ Nor have these exertions failed of producing the adequate effects, comparing the present with the past state of things.

“ Military and naval establishments were made, or enlarged, to promote and extend the true knowledge on which these sciences depend.

“ The *Navy of England* sails now uncontrouled in every part of the habitable world; and her ships of war defy the combined power of all other maritime nations.

“ It was about the same period, that *manufactures* were extended on a new plan, by the enterprize, the capital, and, above all, by the science of men of deep knowledge and persevering industry engaged in them.

“ It was perceived, that it would be better for establishments to be set down on new situations, best suited for raw materials, and the labour

of patient and retired industry, than to be plagued with the miserable little politics of corporate towns, and the wages of their extravagant workmen.

" This produced a new demand, not thought of, till then, in the country, *internal navigation*. To make communications from factory to factory, and from warehouses to harbours, as well as to carry raw materials, to and from such establishments, became absolutely necessary. Hence arose those wonderful works, not of pompous and useless magnificence, but of real utility, which are at this time carried on to a degree of extent and magnitude, to which as yet there is no appearance of limitation.

" The *ancient harbours* of this island, it may be said, have ever been neglected, considering the increase of its naval power, and a foreign commerce, of which there never had been an example, in the history of mankind. The *sea-ports* were (I had almost said are) such as Nature formed, and Providence has bestowed upon us; and they were but little better, previous to that period, notwithstanding some jetties and piers of defence, ill placed, had been made, and repeatedly altered, without knowledge and judgment, at municipal, not government expence.

" This general situation of things gave rise to a new profession, and order of men, called *Civil Engineers*." P. iii.

The same causes also gave rise to the association of Civil Engineers, which met first in March, 1771, under the auspices of Mr. Smeaton, from the suggestion of another gentleman, whom we understand to be Mr. Mylne. From a few members it encreased so much, that, in the space of twenty years, they amounted to more than 65. But of these, only about 15 were real Engineers, employed in public works, or private undertakings of great magnitude. These we find enumerated in a list, giving the names of Yeoman, Smeaton, Grundy, Mylne, Nickalls, Jessop, Golborne, Whitworth, Edwards, Joseph Priestley, Major Watson, Boulton, Whitehurst, Rennie, Watt. Many of these are very generally known. In May, 1792, in consequence of some untoward disagreement, this society was dissolved by mutual consent. Steps were, however, soon taken for renewing it, in a more respectable form; and Mr. Smeaton agreed to be a member. " But alas!" says the narrator, " before their first meeting could be held, he was no more." He died the 28th of October, 1792; and their first meeting was in April, 1793.

The present society is divided into three classes, of which the first consists of what are called *Ordinary Members*, and these are real Engineers. The second class is composed of *Honorary Members*, among whom we see the respectable names of Sir Joseph Banks, Sir George Shuckburgh Evelyn, General Benham, and other friends of Science. The third class consists

lists of Honorary Members of another description, namely, artists whose professions connect them with the science of civil engineering. Among these we see Mr. Ramsden, Mr. Faden, &c. Mr. Brooke, Printer, who stands in the list, is we believe since dead.

This respectable society, having learnt that Sir Joseph Banks had, at a considerable expence, purchased all the manuscript designs, drawings, &c. of Mr. Smeaton, under conditions very honourable to him, and advantageous to the representatives of Mr. Smeaton*, proposed to undertake the publication of the Reports only. The present volume contains about half of the Reports, and the remainder are intended to form a second, should this meet with adequate encouragement. The committee, by which this business is carried on, is composed of the following members: Sir Joseph Banks, Captain Joseph Huddart, William Jessop, Esq. Robert Mylne, Esq. and John Rennie, Esq.

To the Preface is subjoined some account of the life, character, and works of Mr. Smeaton, professedly taken partly from Dr. Hutton's Dictionary, and partly from additional circumstances supplied by gentlemen of the committee. It may here be observed, that Dr. Hutton's account (as well as others that have appeared) is founded on a narrative printed by Mr. John Holmes, Watchmaker, a particular friend of Mr. Smeaton; and afterwards reprinted in the *European Magazine*, vol. xxiii. A few particulars are added in this volume, on the authority, and in the words of Mrs. Dixon, daughter of Mr. Smeaton. This great Engineer was born in 1724, and his father purposed to place him in his own profession, that of an attorney. But Nature formed him for excelling in a different line. In 1753 he began his great undertaking of constructing a new light-house on the Edystone, which was completed in 1759; and of which he published a most instructive and entertaining account in 1791. In 1753 also, he became a Fellow of the Royal Society. His other publications, exclusive of his Reports, are enumerated to the number of 14 articles, several of which are communications to the Royal Society. The various works of public utility in which he was employed from that time to his death, cannot here be enumerated, and the time of his death has been already specified to have been the year 1792. The character of Mr. Smeaton is thus drawn in the present volume.

* That is, that all the profits of any publication made from these materials, should be made over to those representatives.

“ In

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“ In his person Mr. Smeaton was of a middle stature, but broad and strong made, and possessed of an excellent constitution. He had great simplicity and plainness in his manners: he had a warmth of expression that might appear to those who did not know him well, to border on harshness; but such as were more closely acquainted with him, knew it arose from the intense application of his mind, which was always in the pursuit of truth, or engaged in the investigation of difficult subjects. He would sometimes break out hastily, when any thing was said that was contrary to his ideas of the subject; and he would not give up any thing to be argued for, till his mind was convinced, by the deducement of facts before unknown to him, and by sound reasoning. In all the social duties of life, Mr. Smeaton was exemplary; he was a most affectionate husband, a good father, a warm, zealous, and sincere friend, always ready to assist those he respected, and often before it was pointed out to him, in what way he could serve them. He was a lover and an encourager of merit wherever he found it; and many persons now living are in a great measure indebted for their present situation to his assistance and advice. As a companion, he was always entertaining and instructive, and none could spend their time in his company without improvement.”

The contents of this volume are too numerous to be here recited; but the utility of the publication is so evident, that it cannot be doubted by any person, capable of forming a judgment on such a subject. Among the interesting objects to which this volume does not extend, is that of Ramsgate Harbour, in the improvement and finishing of which, Mr. Smeaton so completely evinced his extraordinary talents. For this, and many other reasons, we shall continue to wish for the appearance of the second volume; nor can it be doubted, that the patronage of the public will enable the committee to proceed.

ART. VII. *Transactions of the Royal Society of Edinburgh. Vol. IV.*

(Continued from our last, P. 340.)

THE papers of the physical class, contained in this volume, are,

I. *Account of a Mineral from Strontian, and of a peculiar Species of Earth which it contains.* By Thomas Charles Hope, M. D. F. R. S. Edin. Professor of Medicine in the University of Glasgow.

This mineral has been long known; but, as far as we can find, the species of earth of which it is composed, was first noticed

noticed by Dr. Crawford in the year 1790. An account of it is given by that celebrated mineralogist, Mr. Kirwan, in the *Transactions of the Royal Irish Academy*; some of the foreign Journals likewise mention it; and we have a minute description of it in the present paper, by Dr. Hope.

"Considering it," says Dr. H. "as a peculiar earth, I thought it necessary to give it a name: I have called it *Strontitis*, from the place where it is found." Mr. Kirwan calls the earth *Strontian Earth*, and the mineral *Strontianites*, from Strontian, a lead-mine, in Argyleshire in Scotland, where it is found.

The obvious qualities of the mineral are first described, and afterwards its chemical qualities are ascertained by numerous experiments. According to Dr. Hope's analysis, 100 parts of the mineral contain 61.21 of a peculiar earth, 30.20 of carbonic acid, and 8.59 of water, which agrees pretty nearly with an analysis made by ourselves about five or six years ago.

II. Observations on the Natural History of Guiana; in a Letter from William Lockhead, Esq. F. R. S. Edin. to the Rev. Dr. Walker, Regius Professor of Natural History in the University of Edinburgh.

Guiana, as our readers will recollect, comprehends all the coast of South America, from the river of the Amazons to the Oroonoko; it is in general a low flat country, intersected by many creeks, and watered by several rivers, which rise in a chain of mountains, running nearly east and west, and dividing Guiana from the inland parts of South America, which form the banks of the Amazons and its numerous branches.

Mr. Lockhead's observations tend solely to give the reader some general idea of the face of the country, with a view of ascertaining a knowledge of the formation and present state of this singular tract of land.

The coast, according to Mr. L.'s description, is remarkably curious.

"The changed colour of the water," he observes, "indicates soundings long before you make the land, and you may run on in seven fathoms before you see it from the deck. The bottom is at that distance a soft mud. All along the coast near Demerary you have only two fathoms at a good league from the shore; to leeward of Essequibo, it deepens still more gradually. In standing off or on five or six miles, you will hardly shallow the water as many feet."

The dangers of such a coast are obvious, and the author has therefore rendered navigators an essential service by the many excellent marks he has given them for knowing when they approach

approach land, which are too long for inserting in our pages, and which cannot easily be abridged.

The winds, dews, fogs, and seasons; are all particularly noticed, as is also the temperature. Near the coast, the diurnal difference of temperature is trifling, but far up the river the range of the thermometer was very great. During the hottest part of the day, the thermometer in the shade stood at 90; about five o'clock in the morning, which is the coldest time of the day, it stood at 72 or 74. The heat of the river in the morning was from 80 to 83; and it was only two degrees hotter in the hottest part of the day.

The face of the country, and the rivers and creeks, afford numerous observations, all of which confirm the opinion,

“ That this most recent of countries, together with the large additional parts still forming on its coast, appear to be the productions of two of the greatest rivers on the globe, the Amazons and the Oroonoko. If you cast your eye upon the map, you will observe from Cayenne to the bottom of the Gulph of Paria this immense tract of Swamp, formed by the sediment of these rivers, and a similar tract of shallow muddy coast, which their continued operation will one day elevate. The sediment of the Amazons is carried thus to leeward (westward) by the constant currents which set along from the southward and the coast of Brasil. That of the Oroonoko is detained and allowed to settle near its mouths, by the opposite islands of Trinidad, and still more by the mountains on the main, which are only separated from that island by the Bocos del Drago. The coast of Guiana has remained as it were the great eddy or resting place for the washings of great part of South America for ages; and its own comparatively small streams have but modified here and there the grand deposit.”

III. *A short Paper on the Principles of the Antecedental Calculus.* By James Glenie, Esq. M. A. F. R. S. Lond. and Edin.

Mr. Glenie is dissatisfied with the expression *infinitely little magnitude*, which, he says, “implies a contradiction; for what has magnitude cannot be infinitely little.” In this Antecedental Calculus, which is applicable to the same purposes as fluxions are, no indefinitely small, or infinitely little magnitudes, are supposed, but only magnitudes less than any that may be given or assigned, and ratios nearer to that of equality than any that may be given or assigned. The principles of this Calculus are purely geometrical, and may therefore be preferred by the admirers of ancient geometry to the integral or fluxionary Calculus of the moderns.

The

The present short paper is explanatory of a treatise on the same subject, published several years ago by Mr. Glenie, and is so concise as not to admit of abridgment.

IV, *Observations on the Trigonometrical Tables of the Brahmins.* By John Playfair, F.R.S. Edin. Professor of Mathematics in the University of Edinburgh.

The tables, on which Mr. Playfair makes the observations that form the subject of this paper, are contained in the

“*Surya Siddhanta*, the antient book which has been long, though obscurely, pointed out as the source of the astronomical knowledge of the Brahmins. The *Surya Siddhanta* is in the Sanscrit language: it is one of the *Sastras*, or inspired writings of the Hindoos, and is called the *Jyotish*, or astronomical, *Sastra*. It professes, as we learn from Mr. Davis, the ingenious translator, to be a revelation from heaven; communicated to *Mena*, a man of great sanctity, about four millions of years ago, toward the close of the *Satya* Jug, or of the Golden Age of the Indian mythologists; a period at which man is said to have been incomparably better than he is at present, when his stature exceeded twenty-one cubits, and his life extended to ten thousand years. Interwoven, however, with all these extravagant fictions, this singular book contains a very sober and rational system of astronomical calculation; and even the principles and rules of trigonometry, a science of all others the most remote from fable, and the least susceptible of poetical decoration.”

Mr. Playfair's first remark is, that the Brahmins divide the circumference of the circle into 360 equal parts, and each of these into 60 minutes, as all the ancients did, and as all the moderns do, except the Chinese, who, he says,

“Divide the circle into $365\frac{1}{4}$ parts which can have no other origin than the sun's annual motion; and some such division as this may perhaps have been the first that was employed by other nations, who changed it however to the number 360, which nearly answered the same purpose, and had besides the great advantage of being divisible into many aliquot parts.”

We always thought, as most astronomers do, that the circle was divided by many nations into 360 equal parts, because the Jewish year consisted of 360 days; which year was also used by the Greeks till Thales returned from Egypt, and taught his countrymen to add five days to the length of the year: the Roman year consisted likewise of 360 days, till it was reformed by Numa: we have therefore no doubt, but that this division of the circle originated either with the Jews, or some people who followed them.

The next circumstance which Mr. Playfair notices, is a very curious one; “they express the radius of the circle in parts of the

the circumference, and suppose it equal to 3438 minutes." The ancient Greeks, who seem to have had a great partiality for the sexagesimal division, divided the radius into 60 equal parts; they also divided the arc, which has the radius for its chord, into 60 equal parts; so that the Greeks had two measures and two units, one for the circumference and one for the radius; the Hindoos have only one for both, which Mr. P. thinks much more convenient, as is undoubtedly the case. This circumstance, in our opinion, seems to indicate, that the Hindoos had improved or simplified the Greek method, by using only one measure instead of two, still retaining, however, the sexagesimal division of the arc which has the radius for its chord. As to the accuracy of this measure of the radius, "it is true to the nearest minute, which is all the exactness aimed at in these trigonometrical tables."

Mr. Playfair then proceeds to describe the tables themselves in the following words.

"These tables are two, the one of sines, and the other of versed sines. The sine of an arch, they call *cramajya* or *jyapinda*, and the versed sine *utcramajya*. They also make use of the cosine or *bhojajya*. These terms seem all to be derived from the word *jya*, which signifies the chord of an arch, from which the name of the radius, viz. *trijya* is also taken. This regularity in their trigonometrical language is a circumstance not unworthy of remark. But what is of more consequence to be observed, is, that the use of sines, as it was unknown to the Greeks, who calculated by help of chords, forms a striking difference between the Indian trigonometry and theirs. The use of the sine, instead of the chord, is an improvement which our modern trigonometry owes, as we have hitherto been taught to believe, to the Arabs; and it is certainly one of the acquisitions mathematical sciences made, when on their expulsion from Europe, they took refuge in the east."

The table of the sines exhibits the sines of every 24th part of the quadrant, that is the sines of $3^{\circ} 45'$, of $7^{\circ} 30'$, of $11^{\circ} 15'$, &c. The tables of the versed sines does the same. Each table therefore contains only 24 numbers, of which the greatest is 3438; so that the tables, though complete, are not very accurate, going only to four places of figures. Mr. P. acknowledges, that "this very limited degree of accuracy gives; no doubt, to their [viz. Hindoos'] trigonometry the appearance of an infant science."—"But," he adds, "when, on the other hand, we consider the principles and rules of their calculations, rather than the numbers actually calculated, we find the marks of a science in full vigour and maturity." As examples of the great mathematical knowledge of the Hindoos, we are presented with two rules for constructing the table

of Sines; "the first is extracted from a Commentary on the Surya Siddhanta, the other from the Surya Siddhanta itself." The giving an extract from a commentary on a book is, at best, a very indirect way of proving the knowledge of the composer of the book. When, and by whom, this commentary was written, not the least mention is made; but there can be no doubt that it was written for the express purpose of enhancing the value of the book. With respect therefore to the two rules, which are held forth as specimens of the geometrical knowledge of the Hindoos, the first, though it be the same which modern Europeans use, is inconclusive, because it is not said to have been delivered by an Hindoo; and the second, which occurs in the Surya Siddhanta itself, is derived from principles, which Mr. Playfair acknowledges to be found in Euclid.

After very high encomiums on the profundity of the mathematical knowledge of the Hindoos, Mr. Playfair proceeds thus.

"If we were not already acquainted with the high antiquity of the astronomy of Indostan, nothing could appear more singular, than to find a system of trigonometry so perfect in its principles, in a book so ancient as the Surya Siddhanta. The antiquity of that book, the oldest of the *Satras*, can scarce be accounted less than 2000 years before our æra, even if we follow the very moderate system of Indian chronology laid down by Sir William Jones. Now if we suppose its antiquity to be no higher than this, though it bear in itself internal marks of an age still more remote, yet it will sufficiently excite our wonder, to find it contain the principles of a science, of which the first rudiments are not older in Greece than 130 years before our æra."

Much has been asserted about the antiquity of the Hindoo books, but the proofs brought to confirm that assertion are unsatisfactory. Sir William Jones's *very moderate system of Indian chronology*, is an expression which indicates that the writer entertained doubts of its truth. With respect to the internal marks of antiquity; the only one adduced is the obliquity of the ecliptic, which, Mr. Playfair says, "is stated at 24 degrees in the Surya Siddhanta, as in all the other astronomical tables of the Hindoos which we are yet acquainted with." The obliquity of the ecliptic decreases equably, according to Mr. P. at the rate of 38 seconds every century, and in 1700 the obliquity was $23^{\circ} 28' 41''$, and hence he concludes that the time when the obliquity was 24 degrees, must be 3300 years before the Christian æra*.

* Mr. Playfair's system is also refuted by Mr. Davis, in the *Asiatic Researches*, vol. ii.

Let us however examine the data from which this conclusion is drawn. First, "All the astronomical tables of the Hindoos," state the obliquity at 24 degrees. Now, as the obliquity varies, all these tables must have been composed at the same time, which is in itself highly improbable, and is contrary to an acknowledgment made by Mr. P. that one set of the astronomical tables is computed for the 639th year of our æra. This we think perfectly sufficient to show, that the statement of the obliquity of the ecliptic in the Hindoo tables, on which Mr. P.'s argument is founded, is inaccurate; and we believe he would have found it very difficult to prove, that the Hindoos possessed those nicely adjusted instruments, and that skill and address in the use of them, without which it is impossible to observe the obliquity accurately, at least to half a minute.

Secondly. Mr. P. states the decrement at 38 seconds for every 100 years. The distance between the tropics is recorded by Ptolemy to have been $\frac{1}{3}$ of the circumference about 250 years before Christ, according to the observations of Eratosthenes; which measure was adopted by Hipparchus. Hence the obliquity of the ecliptic would be in our numbers $23^{\circ} 51' 20''$; and this compared with the obliquity in 1700, viz. $23^{\circ} 28' 41''$ will afford us 69 seconds of decrement in the century; and consequently, on the supposition that the decrement were equable, the time when the obliquity was 24 degrees would be 1000 years before Christ, instead of 3300.

Thirdly. The variation of the obliquity of the ecliptic depends on the mutual attractions of the planets; now the effects of these attractions may be calculated by the Newtonian doctrine of gravitation, and in this way the decrement of the obliquity of the ecliptic has been determined. But these effects vary according to the different relative situations of the planets, and consequently the decrement of the obliquity will vary. By calculations made in this way, the decrement in a century, at present, is found to be 50 seconds; and the decrement, at the beginning of the Christian æra, to be $46\frac{1}{2}$ seconds. Hence the supposition of equal decrements is erroneous. Besides, the effects of the mutual attractions depend on the quantity of matter in each of the planets. The difficulty of ascertaining the diameters of the planets is very great; but even if we could measure their bulks accurately, we cannot measure their densities, and the quantity of matter is always proportionate to the density as well as to the bulk; and, therefore, in these calculations, if the quantity of matter in any one planet be assumed falsely, the result will be false.

On the whole then, Mr. P.'s computation is not conclusive; because the first datum, namely, the 24 degrees of obliquity is doubtful; secondly, the assumption of 38 seconds of decrement

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ment in a century is false; and, thirdly, the hypothesis of equal decrements in equal times is also false.

V. *Some Geometrical Porisms, with Examples of their Application to the Solution of Problems.* By Mr. William Wallace, Assistant Teacher of Mathematics in the Academy of Perth.

The porisms contained in this paper are, as far as we know, new, and are applicable to the solution of a number of geometrical problems.

VI. *Determination of the Latitude and Longitude of the Observatory at Aberdeen, in Two Letters from Andrew Mackay, LL. D. and F. R. S. Edin. to John Playfair, F. R. S. Edin. and Prof. of Mathematics in the University of Edinburgh.*

Dr. Mackay has spared no pains in making numerous observations for determining the latitude of the observatory at Aberdeen, to be $57^{\circ} 8' 59''$ north; and the longitude $2^{\circ} 8' 0''$ west from Greenwich.

VI.* *An Account of certain Motions which small lighted Wicks acquire, when swimming in a Basin of Oil; together with Observations upon the Phenomena, tending to explain the Principles on which such Motions depend.* By Patrick Wilson, F. R. S. Edin. and Professor of Practical Astronomy in the University of Glasgow.

The motions treated of in this paper, are those of what Mr. Wilson calls,

"The Hydrostatical Lamp, which consists of a small circular patch of common writing paper, about three-eighths of an inch in diameter, having about a quarter of an inch of soft cotton thread standing up through a puncture in the middle to serve as a wick."

One of these little lamps is made to float on the surface of pure salad oil, contained in a basin, or flat glass vessel, whose sides rise nearly perpendicularly, and,

"As soon as it is lighted it immediately falls directly forward, in some direction, till it meets the side of the vessel, and afterwards takes a circular course, always bearing up to the sides of the vessel, and so will make many revolutions."

* The papers are thus numbered in the volume.

Beside this general phenomenon, several others are described, such as the motion of lamps whose paper bases are of different figures, as elliptical, triangular, &c. of those which have the wick eccentrically placed, with many others, for the particulars of which we must refer our readers to the work itself.

The cause of these motions, Mr. Wilfon supposes to be

“ The flame which broods over a small portion of the oil, and is separated from it only by a thin piece of paper. The oil, in consequence of being violently heated, must increase in volume, and, on account of the decrease of its specific gravity, must be pressed upwards by a force sufficient to raise part of it above the general level. But this portion of oil, in its endeavour to rise up, meets with a resistance from the weight of the incumbent lamp, which will determine it, in seeking a vent, to slide out from under the lamp in a thin superficial stream. The reaction of this stream of rarified oil, thus issuing most rapidly and most copiously from a particular side of the base of the lamp, must impel the lamp in a contrary direction, and make it sail in the manner we have seen.”

The paper concludes with some curious remarks tending to confirm the above explanation, and with particular directions how to make the lamps, and conduct the experiments.

VII. *An Account of a very singular Halo of the Moon.* By William Hall, Esq. of Whitehall, F. R. S. Edin.

This Halo, of which a distinct engraved representation accompanies the description, was a compound one, consisting of two circles, the smaller of which was about 10 degrees in diameter, and had the moon for its centre; the larger had the moon in its circumference, and was 112 degrees in diameter.

VIII. *A new Series for the Rectification of the Ellipse; together with some Observations on the Evolution of the Formula $(a^2 + b^2 - 2ab \cos. \phi)^n$.* By James Ivory, A. M.

Mr. Ivory has given much attention to that part of physical astronomy, which relates to the mutual disturbances of the planets. In pursuing his researches on this subject, he has been led to consider various methods of resolving the formula $(a^2 + b^2 - 2ab \cos. \phi)^n$ into infinite series of this form, $A + B \cos. \phi + C \cos. 2\phi +$, &c. and in the course of these investigations, a series for the rectification of the ellipse occurred to him, remarkable for its simplicity and rapid convergence, which forms the subject of the present paper.

IX. *A short Mineralogical Description of the Mountain of Gibraltar.* By Major Imrie.

In this valuable paper we have a very minute description of the extraordinary hill on which Gibraltar is situated, written in a clear,

a clear, perspicuous; and classical style. What Major Imrie says of the fossil bones, is peculiarly curious and interesting to the mineralogist; as it contradicts, most satisfactorily, the opinion held by several eminent naturalists, that there has been a regular stratum of such matter in the country, and that its present broken and interrupted appearance has been caused by earthquakes, or other convulsions of the globe. His remarks on this subject we shall transcribe as a specimen.

“ If now only remains for me to mention what are generally called the fossil bones, found in the rock of Gibraltar. These have been much talked of, and by some naturalists have been looked on as a phenomenon beyond the power of explanation. The general idea, which exists concerning them, is, that they are found in a petrified state, and inclosed in the solid calcareous rock; but these are mistakes, which could only arise from inaccurate observation and false description.”

“ In the perpendicular fissures of the rock, and in some of the caverns of the mountain (all of which afford evident proofs of their former communication with the surface) a calcareous concretion is found of a reddish brown ferrugineous colour, with an earthy fracture, and a considerable induration inclosing the bones of various animals, some of which have the appearance of being human. These bones are of various sizes, and lie in all directions, intermixed with shells of snails, fragments of the calcareous rock, and particles of spar; all of which materials are still to be seen in their natural uncombined states, partially scattered over the surface of the mountain. These having been swept, by heavy rains at different periods, from the surface into the situations above described, and having remained in those places of rest for a long series of years, exposed to the permeating action of water, have become enveloped in, and cemented by the calcareous matter which it deposits.”

After a comparison of these fossil bones found in Gibraltar, with those of a similar nature found in Dalmatia, the Major confirms his opinion by the following observations.

“ I have traced this concretion, from the lowest part of a deep perpendicular fissure, up to the surface of the mountain. As it approached to the surface, the concretion became less firmly combined, and, when it had no covering of the calcareous rock, a small degree of adhesion only remained, which was evidently produced by the argillaceous earth, in its composition, having been moistened by the rain, and baked by the sun. The depth, at which these materials had been penetrated by that proportion of stalactitical matter, capable of giving to the concretion its greatest degree of adhesion and solidity, I found to vary according to its situation, and to the quantity of matter to be combined. In fissures narrow and contracted, I found the concretion possessing a great degree of hardness at six feet from the surface; but in other situations more extended, and where a larger quantity of materials had been accumulated, I found it had not gained its greatest degree of adhesion at double that depth. In one of the caves, where the

of Greek, and Secretary and Librarian in the University of Edinburgh.

M. Chevalier left England in May, 1796, and, at his departure, he expressed a strong desire, that a second edition of the English version of his essay should be published, improved by some amendments of his own, and also by some new materials collected by Prof. Dalzel. An obstacle however occurred, which rendered a delay necessary; but the zeal of the learned Professor, induced him to give to this society, a short abstract of the most material contents of the Essay, as now confirmed by subsequent travellers, together with the communications of these travellers, and other remarks.

As Professor Dalzel was the translator of M. Chevalier's Essay, we suppose that he will be the publisher of the second edition, which in all probability will be enriched, not only with the remarks and observations contained in this paper, but with several other material additions; we therefore think it more advantageous to our readers, to wait for the appearance of the work itself, than to enter into a detail of this abstract.

ART. VIII. *A Survey of the Turkish Empire, in which are considered, 1st, its Government, Finances, Military and Naval Force, Religion, History, Arts, Sciences, Manners, Commerce, and Population; 2nd, the State of the Provinces, including the ancient Government of the Crim Tartars, the Subjection of the Greeks, their Efforts towards Emancipation, and the Interest of other Nations, particularly Great Britain, in their Success; 3rd, the Causes of the Decline of Turkey, and those which tend to the Prolongation of its Existence, with a Development of the Political System of the late Empress of Russia; 4th, the British Commerce with Turkey, the Necessity of abolishing the Levant Company, and the Danger of our Quarantine Regulations; with many other important Particulars. By W. Eton, Esq. many Years resident in Turkey and in Russia. 8vo. 8s. Cadell and Davies. 1798.*

THE author's qualifications for the work he has published, have the following indisputable foundation. He was a Consul in Turkey; he has visited most parts of that empire, as a traveller; he was for several years in Russia, in the confidence of Prince Potemkin; for five years he was Secretary to his Majesty's mission at Petersburg. It may therefore be easily

castly imagined, that a curious and important volume has been produced by him; and this is truly the case. Mr. Eton divides his work into chapters, the first of which treats of the Turkish government generally, and particularly of the Janizaries, and the Ulema, or body of lawyers. He then proceeds to discuss the Turkish finances, military force, and religion. The fifth chapter contains a very curious historical account of the Turkish power: and the two which follow, treat of arts, sciences, general manners, and population. The eighth chapter is on the Turkish provinces; but, before we go any farther, some extracts seem, in justice to the author, to be required. The following anecdotes, except the last, are more favourable to Turkish ingenuity than justice.

"The dexterity of the Turkish kadis, or judges, to decide in favour of those who have paid them, is often very ingenious; many pleasant stories are told of them, and it is generally a subject for a kind of comedians, who act in coffee-houses or in private houses, but without dress or scenery, one of them performing the part of a kadi, and two others the plaintiff and defendant.

"An Arab who had hired out his camel to a man to travel to Damascus, complained to a kadi, on the road, that he had overloaded his camel; the other bribed the kadi. "What has he loaded it with?" asks the kadi—the Arab answers, "*with cahué (coffee) and mahné,*" i. e. *coffee et cetera* (changing the first letter into *m* makes a kind of gibberish word, which signifies *et cetera*) "*sugar and mugar, pots and mots, sacks and marks,*" &c. going through every article the camel was loaded with; "*he has loaded it twice as much as he ought;*" "then," says the kadi, "let him load the cahué and leave the mahné, the sugar and leave the mugar, the pots and leave the mots, the sacks and leave the macks," and so on to the end of all the articles enumerated, and as the poor Arab had told every article, and only added *et cetera*, according to the Arab custom, without there being any &c. he took up the same loading he had before.

"A Christian subject of the Turks was carried before a judge at Aleppo, accused by a Sherif of having one evening in the bazar, or market place, knocked off his green turban, for which he would have been put to death—the judge was himself a Sherif (they have in most places the privilege of a judge of their own race.) The Christian sent secretly, bribed him, and informed him of the truth, which was, that the Sherif's turban was of so dark a green that he took it for a dark blue, a colour which a Christian friend of his wore, and for whom he had taken him in the dark of the evening, and had knocked off his turban in a joke. The accused was brought before the judge, and the plaintiff came into the judge's hall with a great number of other Sherifs. The judge addressed them; "*Do you come here in such numbers to ask justice, or to take it yourselves; go out all but those who are witnesses, and you Christian,*" said he, addressing himself to the accuser (who had been privately pointed out to him) "*go you out, I suppose you are a witness for the accused; you shall be called when you are wanted.*" The man exclaimed, that he was not only a Mahomedan, but a Sherif, and

and the accuser himself! "What," says the judge, "you must wear a turban of a colour that I myself in the day time wear; that of an infidel; how could the poor infidel in the dark do it? You ought to wear the holy *grass* green of the prophet, and be ashamed of it." He acquitted the Christian, and ordered the plaintiff to be bastinadoed for not wearing a proper green turban. "Without this turn, he would, without this turn, have been difficult to have appeared before the violence of the Sherifs assembled; but he was well paid for it, for money they will run any risks."

"If the Turkish judges display great ingenuity in distorting the rules of equity, it must be owned that they sometimes show equal ingenuity in the advancement of justice. When the famous Kuperly was grand vizir, an old woman brought to an Armenian money-changer a casket containing jewels of great apparent value, said they belonged to a sultana, and borrowed money on them, depositing the casket with him, and had sealed it. The money was to be paid again in a certain time. The woman not appearing a long while after the time was expired, he opened the casket, in the presence of several respectable persons, and the jewels were discovered to be false. The Armenian went to the vizir and related the story. The sultana had not sent any jewels; he pawned. He ordered him to remove from his shop, in a private manner, every thing valuable, and on such a night to set it on fire; that he would be near with proper people to prevent it spreading; that then he should constantly sit before his shop, and lament to all who passed his having lost a casket of jewels of immense value in the fire. In a few days the old woman appeared, and demanded to release her jewels. She was carried to the vizir, who showed her her casket, and told her she should be immediately put to death by the most terrible torments, if she did not confess the whole. She discovered her accomplices; they were put to death, and the Armenian got back his money, deducting the vizir's share. This fact is known at Constantinople." P. 32.

How very ignorant the Turks are of arts and letters, sufficiently appears from the following very curious detail.

"**ASTRONOMY.**—From the mufti to the peasant it is generally believed that there are seven heavens, from which the earth is immovably suspended by a large chain; that the sun is an immense ball of fire, at least as big as a whole Ottoman province, formed for the sole purpose of giving light and heat to the earth; that eclipses of the moon are occasioned by a great dragon attempting to devour that luminary; that the fixed stars hang by chains from the highest heaven, &c. &c. These absurdities are in part supported by the testimony of the Koran; and the astronomers, as they are called, themselves all pretend to astrology, a profession so much esteemed, that an astrologer is kept in the pay of the court, as well as of most great men.

"**GEOGRAPHY.**—Of the relative situation of countries they are ridiculously ignorant, and all their accounts of foreign nations are mixed with superstitious fables. They distinguish different Christian states by different appellations of contempt.

"**EPITHETS**

"**EPITHETS** which the Turks apply to those who are not *Osmans*, and which they often use to denominate their nation.

<i>Albanians</i>	-	gut sellers	-	(<i>gignirgee</i>)
<i>Armenians</i>	-	t-rd eaters, dirt-eaters	-	(<i>bukabee</i>)
<i>Bosniacks & Bulgarians</i>	-	vagabonds	-	(<i>potur</i>)
<i>Christians</i>	-	idolaters	-	(<i>purpureff</i>)
<i>Dutch</i>	-	cheese-mongers	-	(<i>penirgee</i>)
<i>English</i>	-	atheists	-	(<i>dinffis</i>) i. e. having no religion.
<i>Flemmings</i>	-	panders	-	(<i>felamink, pezewink</i>)
<i>French</i>	-	faithless	-	(<i>franffis, imanffis</i>)
<i>Germans</i>	-	louse-eaters	-	(<i>bityreyeffis</i>)
<i>Italians</i>	-	infidel blasphemers	-	(<i>gurer kiaffer</i>)
<i>Greeks of the islands</i>	-	hares	-	(<i>tarunffan</i>)
<i>Italians or Franks</i>	-	many-coloured	-	(<i>farrenki, bassarrenki</i>)
<i>Jews</i>	-	mangy dogs	-	(<i>cheffut</i>)
<i>Moldavians</i>	-	drones	-	(<i>bogdan, nadan</i>)
<i>Poles</i>	-	insolent infidels	-	(<i>judul, guitur</i>)
<i>Russians</i>	-	mad infidels	-	(<i>rafs, meukius</i>)
<i>Spaniards</i>	-	lazy	-	(<i>tembul</i>)
<i>Tatars</i>	-	carriage eaters	-	(<i>lashyeyedgee</i>)
<i>Walachians</i>	-	gypsies	-	(<i>chingani</i>)

"Before the Russian fleet came into the Mediterranean, the ministers of the porte would not believe it possible for them to approach Constantinople but from the Black Sea. The captain pasha (great admiral) affirmed, that their fleet might come by the way of Venice. From this, and a thousand similar and authentic anecdotes, their ignorance of the situation of countries is evident; and as to the stories which they universally believe, they are such as the following: that India is a country far distant, where there are diamonds, fine muslins, and other riches, and great riches; but that the people are little known; that they are Mahomedans mostly, but do not acknowledge the kalifat of their sultan; that the Persians are a very wicked people, and will be all damned, and changed into asses in hell, and that the Jews will ride on them; that the European nations are all wicked infidels, knowing an art of war, which is sometimes dangerous, but will all be conquered in time, and reduced to the obedience of the sultan, that their women and children ought to be carried into captivity, that no faith is to be kept with them, and that they ought all to be massacred, which is highly meritorious, if they refuse to become Mahomedans; yet they have among them a prophecy, that the *sons of yellowness*, which they interpret to be the Russians, are to take Constantinople; that the English are powerful by sea, and the French and Germans by land; that the Russians are the most powerful, and they call them the *great infidels*; but they are acquainted with no details of these countries.

"**ANCIENT HISTORY.**—They have heard of an Alexander, who was the greatest monarch and conqueror, and the greatest hero in the world. The sultans often compare themselves to him in their writings. Sultan Mahomed IV. in his letter to the Russian czar, Alexis Michaelovitz, calls himself "*master of all the universe, and equal*"

equal in power to Alexander the Great." They talk of him always as the model of heroism to be imitated; but they know not who he was. Solomon, they say, was the wisest man, and the greatest magician, that ever existed. Palmyra and Balbek, they say, were built by spirits at the command of Solomon.

"POETRY and GENERAL LITERATURE.—They have a few poets, as they are called, whose compositions are mostly little songs and ballads; but in these, as well as their prose writings, they differ widely from the simplicity of the Arabs, as they abound with false conceits; and the language is a barbarous mixture of the Turkish with Persian and Arabic, not unlike that "*Babylonish dialect*" of our puritans, which Butler compares to "*fusian cut on Latin*." P. 197.

As Egypt is now necessarily become an object of general curiosity, our next extract shall present the situation and circumstances of that province of the Turkish empire, as they appeared to Mr. Eton.

"I have said that Egypt is independent: a few words on the peculiar relation of that country to Turkey will not be improper, perhaps. The division of the spiritual dignities of the Mahomedans took place, A. D. 970, in an early period of their religion, and the Fatimite kalifs established themselves in Egypt, claiming to themselves the title of *commander of the faithful*, heretofore borne by the kalifs of Bagdad.

"Both these kalifs successively yielded to the force or policy of the Turkish princes. The last of the Egyptian kalifs called in the Turks to his assistance against the Christian crusaders, which service being accomplished, the new allies *turned against the kalif himself, and strangled him*, A. D. 1171, when a new dynasty commenced in the person of Salah-ud-din.

"The Egyptian princes long maintained an independent power by the assistance of their Mamaluk troops, until, in 1518, they were reduced to subjection by Selim the son of Bayazet, and have ever since remained attached, nominally at least, to the porte; but as their beys were not deprived of their power, and to this day each is governor, or rather sovereign of a district, these in fact exercise a tyranny of the worst kind over a country, which would be one of the most productive in the universe, were property protected, while they render little either of tribute or submission to the porte.

"This corps of *Mamaluks* is kept up, to this day, by *slaves* bought from the same countries, viz. Georgia, Circassia, Abassia, and Mingrelia, and mostly purchased at Constantinople, for their children, born in the country, are not admitted into the corps; indeed it is affirmed, and it is very remarkable, that they have but few children, and their families never extend beyond two generations. This is accounted for by their being greatly addicted to an unnatural vice.

"The actual power resides in the Mamaluks, and the bey who has most of them in his suite is consequently the most powerful. As to the pasha sent by the porte, he has at different times had more or less influence, but is in general a mere cypher, obliged to submit to the will of the beys, who dismiss him when they please. They have
sometimes

sometimes entirely thrown off all appearance of submission to the porte; and at present, as well as generally, their obedience is only nominal, and the pasha is in reality a prisoner in the castle of Cairo, which is the place fixed for his residence.

"The tribute which Egypt ought to send the porte is frequently withheld, or, if transmitted, it is diminished by deductions for the reparation of canals, fortresses, &c. at the will of the beys. Yet a long procession of mules and camels sets out annually from Egypt, with the pretended revenue for the sultan, which, instead of silver, consists mostly of bags of rice, and, not unfrequently, stopes.

"The janizaries and Arab soldiers in the service of the porte, are but little able to enforce its authority, as they are few in number, and mostly composed of artizans and persons unaccustomed to arms. The Mamalukes, on the contrary, must be allowed to be most excellent cavalry.

"In the beautiful country and climate of Egypt, it is distressing to consider how little the advantages of nature are cultivated, and how much its evils are augmented by the ignorance and unaccountably gross superstition of its inhabitants.

"From a survey of Egypt I turn to the northern part of the empire, to contemplate the provinces of Walachia and Moldavia, which, like the last-mentioned country, are rather attached to the empire by treaty than by absolute subjection, and who retain at least independence as to matters of internal regulation; their inhabitants are, however, more oppressed than perhaps any people in the empire; nor could they possibly bear such exactions, were it not for the wonderful fertility of the soil." P. 294.

The ninth chapter states the political condition of Greece, and the tenth, which is very important, considers the Turkish empire with regard to its foreign connections. The concluding chapter investigates the British trade to the Levant, and has, among others, the following most momentous particulars.

"But it may be necessary to examine a little more narrowly how far our quarantine regulations secure us at present from the plague. After all that has been said by Dr. Russel, it may appear indeed superfluous to touch this subject again, but since his excellent treatise has produced no amelioration of these regulations, his arguments cannot be too much enforced. I affirm, not only from my own knowledge of the nature of lazarettos, but from the opinion of officers of the health offices at Malta, Leghorn, and Marseilles, whom I consulted on the subject, *that our quarantine regulations are wholly ineffectual, and that we are constantly exposed to the danger of having the plague imported from Turkey, by every vessel which comes directly from that country.*

"1st. It is beyond all doubt established, that the miasm, effluvia, or whatever it may be called, which produces the plague, may remain in an active state, so as to occasion infection, for a much longer time than is required for a vessel to load in Turkey, make her voyage, and perform quarantine in Great Britain.

"2. It

" 2. It is equally certain that these fomites, or the impregnation of substances with pestilential miasmata, cannot be destroyed but by airing a certain time, by fumigating, by washing, by moistening with such liquors as are anti-pestilential, or by exposing to a severe cold. Some of these destroy the miasm in a short time, some require a longer.

" 3. It appears from Dr. Ruffel's remarks (and he has been delicate on this subject too) that notwithstanding all the fidelity and diligence of consuls, infected goods may be shipped for Britain, and the ship which carries them have a *fair bill of health*.

" Now as merchandize performing quarantine in Britain and in Holland (where the regulations are still worse) are never opened and properly aired, it follows that such quarantines are not sufficient to destroy the fomites; nor are these quarantines safe with regard to other circumstances; for communication with those who supply the passengers and ship's crew with provisions, &c. is not sufficiently guarded, and the passengers and the crew, though they were not infected in Turkey, are liable every day, by touching the cargo or their effects, to catch the plague, and to communicate it to others; nor is smuggling impossible, as the lazaretto now are established.

" It does not appear that the laws of this country will permit such a police to be observed in lazaretto as is indispensably necessary to secure the country from the plague.

" The officers of health have, in the Mediterranean, a power of putting to death immediately all those who violate the laws of the quarantine in such a manner as that contagion may be communicated, and their power is independent of the civil magistrate or any other authority. For the most trifling thing smuggled, or endeavoured to be smuggled, out of the lazaretto, the offenders are shot dead the instant they are detected. A person escaping from the lazaretto, were it one hour before the expiration of the quarantine, is equally punished with immediate death, &c. &c. &c.

" There are neither proper places, nor buildings, nor regulations, for performing quarantine in safety in Great Britain, nor is the nature of quarantine understood in our lazaretto.

" It may be asked, how have we escaped the plague since the year 1666, when the last plague in London entirely ceased. I answer, chiefly by not admitting ships with foul bills of health from the Levant, and obliging them to perform quarantine in the Mediterranean since that regulation took place, and by God's mercy only that vessels with clean bills of health have not brought it.

" What are we to do to be more secure in future, will then be asked. The answer is very short and obvious; to oblige all vessels coming from the Levant, whether with *fair* or with *foul bills of health*, to perform quarantine in Malta, in Leghorn, or in Marseilles, &c. and then with the proper attestations of the health officers, signed also by his Majesty's consuls in other ports, to admit them into Great Britain without performing a second and useless quarantine.

" Trade would gain by this regulation, and we should be under no apprehension of the plague. The charges are small in the Mediterranean, and not more for us than for our rivals in trade.

" Malta

"Malta is by far the best port to perform quarantine in; the regulations are even more to be relied on than at Leghorn, as they are in some respects more scrupulous; it lies more in the road of vessels coming home from any part of Turkey. It is true that masters of vessels, for many private reasons, which do not benefit their owners or the freighters, prefer Leghorn; but it is considerably out of the track of their voyage.

"With respect to Holland, most certainly, Turkey goods, and cottons in particular, ought not to be admitted thence till they have been well aired; nor need we ever have imported such vast quantities, or any quantity at all from Holland or any other place, had the Turkey trade been free in Britain." P. 487.

The author's account of his escape from a very perilous situation, may be found at p. 326, and gives an interesting specimen of Turkish manners. In the progress of the work, the reader will have frequent occasion to praise the labours of Dr. Ruffel, to commend the knowledge of Baron Tott, and to reprehend the luxuriance of Lady W. Montague's imagination. The fidelity of Mr. Eton cannot possibly be disputed; and his work is perhaps the most circumstantial and satisfactory of the kind, that has been published in our language.

ART. IX. *The Influence of Metallic Tractors on the Human Body, in removing various painful inflammatory Diseases: such as Rheumatism, Pleurisy, some Gouty Affections, &c. lately discovered by Dr. Perkins, of North America, and demonstrated in a Series of Experiments and Observations, by Professors Meigs, Woodward, Rogers, &c. by which the Importance of the Discovery is fully ascertained, and a new Field of Enquiry opened in the modern Science of Galvanism, or Animal Electricity.* By Ben. Douglas Perkins, A. M. Son to the Discoverer. 8vo. 99 pp. 2s. 6d. Johnson. 1798.

"DOCTOR Perkins," we are told, p. 1, "had for many years entertained the opinion, that metals *possessed an influence on the human body*, which had hitherto escaped the notice of physiologists. This opinion," he says, "was the result of some phenomena, which in the course of his practice had arrested his attention."

The phenomena alluded to, are

"The contraction of a muscle, as the point of the knife with which he was about to divide it approached its surface, and the cessation of pain, when a knife or lancet was applied to separate the gum from the tooth, preparatory to extracting it."

But

But the Doctor might have observed, that many of his patients ceased to complain of the pain in their teeth, as soon as they entered his shop, and before the instrument was applied to their gums; so that fear acts in the same manner on the nerves as metals are supposed to act; and it is probable, that the contraction of the muscle proceeded from the same cause. Be this however as it may, it does not appear that the Doctor had communicated his observations to his brother practitioners, or that he had suggested any uses to which this power in the metals might be applied, until the experiments of Galvani, on the influence of metals on the nerves and muscular fibres, were published.

"From this period he began to turn his attention to this his favourite pursuit," as it is here called; p. 4, "and sought with eagerness for subjects which might enable him to ascertain the power of metallic influence when applied to the diseases of the human body. In the course of an extensive practice these were frequently found, on which he never failed to make such experiments as were calculated to accomplish his object.

"The result corroborated," the author says; "and indeed exceeded his most sanguine expectations; for he discovered, that by drawing over the parts affected, in *particular directions, certain instruments, which he formed from metallic substances into certain shapes*, he could remove chronic rheumatism, some gouty affections, pleurisies, inflammations in the eyes, erysipelas, and tetters; violent *spasmodic* convulsions, as epileptic fits; the locked jaw; and indeed most kinds of painful topical affections."

The mystery in which the author involved his discovery, and with which his operations were performed, gave, and seemingly with reason, so much offence to the Connecticut Medical Society, a large and respectable body of physicians, from all the different towns of that state, that the Doctor and his art seemed both, for a time, to be proscribed: and though some of the members have since used the instruments, and made favourable reports of their efficacy, it does not appear that their testimony has been sufficiently weighty; either to make converts of the majority of members of that society, or to procure the introduction of the tractors into general use in that country. How far the credulity of the English may be made to compensate for the scepticism of the American, is now to be seen.

But the terms on which the tractors are offered, viz. five guineas a set, does not seem calculated to solicit experiment. As inflamed eyes, quinies, pleurisies, rheumatism, and the other complaints for which the tractors are recommended, are no less common than distressing, why by putting an extrava-

gant

giant price upon the instrument, totally preclude the middling and lower classes of the people, who are such frequent martyrs to those complaints, from the use of them? Why not sell them for five shillings, instead of five guineas? The increase in the sale would abundantly compensate for the smallness of the profit, and there would be this additional advantage, that as the experiments would be multiplied, their merit would be soon established.

The power of the gasses in curing consumptions, palsy, and a thousand other complaints; and of the nitric and other acids, in superseding the use of mercury in the venereal disease, have been as highly extolled as that of the tractors is now, and a much greater number of cases have been alledged to establish their efficacy, than are here produced, and yet when the prejudice which novelty and some accidental circumstances and cures had excited, were dispelled, and the experiments came to be repeated by a greater number of persons, their reputation diminished just in proportion to the number of persons who used them, and the experiments that were tried. We pretend not to say the tractors will suffer the same fate, but are much disposed to expect that will be the case; as, in the few cases in which they have been tried here, that have come under our knowledge, they have totally failed.

A considerable part of the volume is employed in defending the author's father against the censures of his colleagues, who considered the invention as a species of Mesmerism*, to which it is certainly nearly allied. The author is extremely angry also, that his instrument is called a *nostrum*.

"By the term *nostrum*," he says, p. 32, "is meant a secret medicine, the ingredients of which are known only to the possessor; whereas a patent, which they," the author and his father, "acknowledge to have obtained, effectually discloses the secret, by the specification which is obliged to be lodged in the patent office, and exposed to the view of any person who has the curiosity to read it."

But this is done with all patent and advertised medicines, which are still called *nostrums*, the property and use of them being restricted to the inventors. The term seems also in a peculiar manner to apply to the tractors, as, from the author's account, it appears that a great part of their merit consists in the manner of handling them, that is in action or gesticulation; and this, without doubt, was the reason that the physicians of *Connecticut* called the invention a species of Mesmerism.

* Animal magnetism; from Mesmer, one of the imposing professors of it.

ART. X. *Memoirs of the Right Honourable Edmund Burke; or an impartial Review of his private Life, his public Conduct, his Speeches in Parliament, and the different Productions of his Pen, whether political or literary; interspersed with a Variety of curious Anecdotes, and Extracts from his secret Correspondence with some of the most distinguished Characters in Europe. By Charles McCormick, LL. B.* 4to. 383 pp. 2l. 1s. London, printed for the Author. 1797.

AN ill-written large work may be frequently dismissed in three lines; but there may be other faults besides those of a literary kind, which we are obliged to censure more at large. Even simple malignity we cannot pass by: but when it springs from interest, we regard it with more asperity; and when from an interest hostile to our country, it must kindle in all who feel as patriots, an indignation still higher in its tone of severity. The existence of civil society depends on the continuance of that spirit which Mr. Burke so much conducted to raise throughout this nation; and was enabled to raise, in a very considerable degree, from the general conception of his integrity. The enemies of the country in fact admit this; it is the explicit language of their attacks upon it, and him.

Such is the work before us, and such its object. A very great part of it is formed of long citations from the speeches and writings of Mr. Burke. Thus from his first publication in this country, "A Vindication of Natural Society," the extracts amount to nearly 16 quarto pages. Passages of one description indeed, are totally unnoticed. In all his works, he appears to have had in his eye the new doctrines of civil government, and by anticipation to have noted them with a reprobation as keen, as appears in any thing he has said on the French revolution. The dishonest artifice of keeping out of sight this evidence, by which the charge of dereliction of principle is totally done away, we foresaw. It came legitimately before us, when Mr. B.'s two letters on the Conduct of our Domestic Parties, were under our consideration; and we produced then a series of extracts from his writings, containing strong condemnation of the new philosophy of civil liberty; beginning with the first of his publications, mentioned above, and conducting it down to his last tract relating to the American war, addressed to the Sheriff of Bristol. We produced also the sentence then pronounced by Dr. Price upon him for it, with the elegant liberality of Plato, that he should be

be crowned with flowers, but banished from the republic he was founding, on account of the danger of his principles.

The art of destroying characters has two great branches; suppression and invention. The ability with which Dr. M'C. has acquitted himself in the former, has been already noticed. We come now to the latter; professing ourselves not able to distinguish what may be his own, under this head, and how far he may have been obliged to the assistance of his friends. Two or three instances we shall here note.

When Mr. Hamilton went over as Secretary to Lord Halifax, then Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, he prevailed upon Mr. Burke to accompany him; and in that kingdom, this writer admits him to have been "of essential service, both to that gentleman and to government." At this time his fortune (we from circumstances infer) was low; he accepted of a pension on that establishment of 300*l.* a year. The connection between him and Mr. H. was dissolved: this pension, says Dr. M'Cormick, he afterwards sold to pay some importunate demands. (p. 36.) To us the authority is of the highest value on which we declare, that when he could no longer act with Mr. Hamilton, he did not sell, but he spontaneously resigned that pension*, to a gentleman of Mr. Hamilton's nomination; though the common friends of both parties thought that he might have kept it with perfect honour.

On his first introduction to the late Marquis of Rockingham, that nobleman is likewise said, by this writer, on being made acquainted with Mr. B.'s straitened circumstances, to have lent him 23,000*l.* on his bond. (p. 41.) In itself it seems a singular circumstance, for a leader of a party to advance 23,000*l.* to a needy adventurer in politics, as a capital to begin trade with. The truth respecting Mr. Burke's circumstances, at that time, is what coarse irritation once drew from him in the House of Commons. By the death of his father and brother, he succeeded to a fortune of upwards of 20,000*l.* At the worst it was the ardour of conscious qualification and trained ability, that made him take a place on that stage, on which he soon acted one of the most leading parts. He paid the expences of his own seat in the House of Commons; and when he was Secretary to the Marquis of Rockingham, at that time First Lord of the Treasury, thinking it incumbent on a new man to establish a reputation of disinterestedness by uncommon proofs, he declined the salary of his office. With this mode of thinking and acting, it is not much to be won-

* See also Dr. Bisset's *Life of Burke*, p. 71.

dered at, that Mr. Burke's pecuniary circumstances soon became straightened.

The foil of misrepresentation is sometimes so fertile, that the scythe cannot cut down the crop so fast as it vegetates. When Mr. B. took the office of Paymaster-General of the army, "by a law of which he was the author, and which has since been imitated in the payment of the navy, he changed the mode of the office; when if he had kept it on its old footing, he might have been rich in the public money." No doubt can by us be entertained of the authority on which we give this. Dr. M'Cormick affirms, that he effected no regulation in this office, and that his accounts remain unsettled at this day; and then he adds a history of certain importunate letters on this business, and a certain political compromise of this demand of the public, of which he even ventures to assign a near date, (p. 255).

The fact, thus maliciously attempted to be distorted, we understand on good information to be this. According to the ancient practice and constitution of the office, the accounts of every Paymaster-General were necessarily kept open, till all the monies, issued by him to the different inferior Paymasters, had been severally brought to account; when the whole was authenticated by the oath of the Paymaster-General, who in consequence, and not before, received from the Treasury his final discharge. This form of business it was, which gave occasion to the Paymaster to retain large sums of money in his hands. Mr. Burke having by his law taken all the public money out of the possession of the Paymaster-General, by interposing the Bank between him and the Treasury, imagined himself to have abrogated this form of final settlement, which had its origin in the Paymaster being the only person in the office who accounted, or could account with the Treasury. The Officers thought otherwise, and when the accounts of Mr. Burke's short period were all made up, repeatedly applied to him to pass them on oath; but he as repeatedly refused to comply with a form, which he considered as abolished by law, and which called upon him to swear to accounts on belief, of which he could have no actual knowledge. The accounts, however, have been since passed. Not a shilling was due to the public. His delicacy of conscience on this occasion, was in reality but another feature of the same just and upright mind, which he discovered in so many other actions of his life. But the perversion of the truth, for the purpose of turning a conduct of the nicest probity into a charge of gross speculation and corruption, ought sufficiently to put the public on their

their guard against all the pretended information which comes to them through such a polluted channel.

We shall add, from the remainder of a very considerable list of similar assertions, one more only. Dr. M'Cormick informs us, that in 1793, when the secession from the Whig-Club took place, those who concurred in it, signed a letter written by Mr. Burke, with the "aid of one or two hints from Sir Gilbert Elliot," (p. 369) notifying their resolution to that body; which was individually subscribed by the seceders. We can assure our readers, from the authority hitherto followed (which is that of a gentleman present) that Mr. B. although "in the number of the seceders, had no concern in the drawing up of the letter."

Of the pretended original papers of Mr. Burke, we shall say little; the publication of the genuine remains of his correspondence, and of some other pieces, is yet expected. This alone would make us wait for further lights relating to them. From loose and imperfect papers, which were intrusted to him to copy, Sw^{ft} published, although incorrectly, Mr. B.'s important and very confidential letter to the Duke of Portland; and Mr. Burke himself supposed that the same man might be possessed of some others, if he had been any considerable time meditating frauds of that kind; as, at the end of that surreptitious edition, was advertised a volume of pretended memoirs and letters of the author. This we conjecture to be what we have at present before us.

Some of the papers here published, if they contain any thing genuine, will, on examination, be found to bear strong internal marks of interpolation, and for bad purposes. We very well know, that the ancient fabrication of state papers, by Mark Antony, has been lately copied with great success. The diligence and productiveness of Mr. Sw^{ft}'s manufactory may, like that of the unprincipled Roman, come to be rivalled by "a set of imitators; who will multiply their undoubted originals, and advertise them for sale*:" and we have many persons amongst us, less sceptical than Cicero upon such subjects; who will not ask, "whence do they issue? What is the character of the man who pretends to give them authenticity?"

To finish what relates to Dr. M'C.'s publication, we add two brief specimens of his style; and they will, at the same time, serve as specimens of his principles.

* Quid de innumerabilibus chirographis loquar? quorum etiam imitatores sunt, qui ea palam venditent.

† Unde ista erumpunt, quo auctore proferuntur? Cic. Phil. 2da. C. 16.

He thus refutes a strong charge of ignorance advanced against the present age, in a science of the highest consequence, by Mr. Burke, on an authority which he appears to hold irrefragable.

"TOM PAINE thinks this to be the age of reason; but what is the opinion of PAINE or the rest of the world, when opposed to that of a man [Mr. Burke] who, mounting the tribunal of superlative conceit and arrogance, passes sentence upon all his contemporaries of the human race, and consigns them to incurable ignorance and stupidity." P. 329.

Of the conspiracy of the united Irish, he thus writes :

"The dragon's teeth are sown, and must ere long spring up in both of armed patriots—not with frantic rage to point their spears at each others breasts—but TO FERTILIZE THE SOIL, and *renovate the proverbial verdure of their country**, BY THE BLOOD OF ITS CRUEL OPPRESSORS." P. 231.

The promised renovation has indeed been attempted, but not without strong symptoms of "frantic rage;" and the time, we trust, is coming, when the false accusation of oppression shall no longer be able to deceive the Irish populace, more happily united than hitherto, and with better associates.

ART. XI. *Hogarth illustrated from his own Manuscripts. By John Ireland.*

(Concluded from our last, Page 354.)

IN our last Review we gave a general opinion of the part of this very entertaining work which is written by Hogarth, and, considered in that light, is highly interesting. We thus learn, from his own narrative, what were his modes of study and practice; and the inducements by which he was led to adopt that particular branch of art, which he afterwards so successfully cultivated. We have extended the article to a second review, to notice the prints introduced in the volume, and that portion of the work which is written by the editor.

Including the vignettes, there are 44 engravings, either from drawings in Mr. Ireland's possession, or from larger prints; and they are generally copied with spirit, and with a close attention to the manner of the master. In his selection, the editor professes to have paid more attention to the *merit*, than to the *rarity* of the originals; though in some of them, particularly

that entitled *Enthusiasm delineated*, both these circumstances are united. The history of this print is curious. Of the original from which it was copied, there are but two impressions extant, both of them in the possession of Mr. John Ireland. The artist professedly designed it as a ridicule of the absurdities of painters, who, by delineating such subjects as are not objects of sight, render that which they intended to be sublime, ridiculous. When he came to contemplate his engraving, he was probably apprehensive, that the object of his satire would be mistaken, and it would be supposed he was ridiculing religion, rather than the masquerade habit with which painters have sometimes disguised it; he therefore erased, or essentially altered every figure except two, changed the point of his satire, and, on the same copper, engraved the plate of *the Medley*, now in the possession of Messrs. Boydell, and of which Mr. Ireland has given a spirited copy to face the print in its first state.

Of the two prints, contrasted with each other, we have a long explanation, preceded by the following motto from South's Sermons.

"Idolatry is not only an accounting and worshipping that for God which is not God, but it is also worshipping the true God in a way unsuitable to his nature, and particularly by the mediation of images and corporeal resemblances."

Such was the opinion of Dr. South, and such the opinion of Hogarth, when he designed this very extraordinary print, the intention of which is to give "a lineal representation of the strange effects of literal and low conceptions of sacred beings, as also of the idolatrous tendency of pictures in churches, prints in religious books, &c." To exemplify this, he has parodied the productions of several eminent masters, whose works having been generally painted under the direction of Cardinals, Popes, &c. are chiefly on religious subjects, and by the artist's attempting to represent what are not properly objects of sight, that which they intended to be sublime is rendered in the highest degree ridiculous. To burlesque the idolatrous symbols with which they have peopled their canvas,—place the Popish doctrine of transubstantiation in its true point of view,—unmask hypocrisy, and check the progress of those enthusiastic delusions which Bishop Lavington properly terms Religion run mad†, are the author's leading objects."

Of

* "Copied from Hogarth's hand-writing under the original print, of which Mr. Ireland has published a copy of the same size."

† "Archbishop Tillotson remarks in one of his sermons, that *bocus pocus* is derived from *hoc est corpus*."

‡ "This new dispensation (Methodism) is a compound of *enthusiasm*, *superstition*, and *imposture*. When the blood and spirits run high, inflaming the brain and imagination, it is most properly *enthusiasm*,

Of the nine prints from *Don Quixote*, the first is inserted, without the engraver's name, in Jarvis's quarto edition: the second appears to be from an unfinished plate. Of the others, six were intended for Lord Carteret's Spanish edition, published in 1738.

Of the ninth, Mr. Ireland gives the following account, and adds to it a short parallel of Cervantes and Hogarth, which, as it will give a specimen of his language and turn of thinking, we have inserted.

"The last scene in the series, representing Sancho's *scant*, is copied from an incomparable print, engraved at an early period of Hogarth's life, and published by Overton and Hoole, price one shilling. The subject of this is exactly consonant to Hogarth's genius, and was probably selected by the artist to shew how happily he could enter into the spirit of a writer, whose turn of mind seems so congenial to his own: had Cervantes been an Englishman, I think he would have contemplated our national follies through the same medium that they were seen by Hogarth, and probably selected similar scenes as subjects for his satire. He lived in an age and country when one gigantic folly "*in proud pre-eminence stalk'd through the land*;" he touched the phantom with his pen, and it vanished: but as folly is in some cases the parent of virtue, may not chivalry and romance, ridiculous as they are in the eye of reason, give birth to an ardour of spirit, which aggrandizes and elevates a nation? To a sedate and saturnine people, a spice of absurdity may have its use, were it only to give motion to those virtues, which without it might stagnate. Divested of that frenzy, which at the same time that it ruffles and impairs their reason, awakes and rouses their spirits, a whole nation, like a man of war *be-calmed*, may be undulated by ineffectual motion, until they drop into a sort of mental stupor, unmarked by any other distinction than those that arise from stately indolence, haughty solemnity, and supercilious dignity.

"I will not presume to say, that Spain is exactly in this situation;—but if it were, other causes may have contributed to the change: if such are to be the consequences of a nation's becoming wise, a tincture of folly is rather to be desired than dreaded.

"As to the hero of this admirable tale, *the knight of the sorrowful countenance*, who has been the cause of more laughter than either the knights of Arthur's round table, or any other knights ancient or modern—how can we sufficiently admire him! a paragon of patience and

stasm, which is *religion run mad*. When low and dejected, causing groundless terrors, or the placing the great duty of man in little observances, it is *superstition*, which is *religion scared out of its senses*. When any fraudulent dealings are made use of, and any wrong projects carried on under the mask of piety, it is *imposture*, and may be termed *religion turned hypocrite*." Lavington.

perseverance

perseverance—unconquerable fortitude, and proud honour—who in his lucid intervals reasons like a philosopher, and was invariably actuated by the most exalted motives;—deemed himself bound to defend the weak against the strong—chastise insolence—redress injuries—and loose those who were in bonds! That this ardent, heroic, and dignified character, with motives so pure, an heart so excellent, and virtues that elevate, adorn, and irradiate human nature; should be led, by an enthusiasm which fevered his imagination, into absurdities that expose him to derision, and, like Samson, brought forth to make sport for the multitude, is mortifying to humanity; and I must confess, that with me, the laugh which the author's irresistible humour invariably excites, is accompanied by a pitying sigh for the hero of his history;—who is after all so superlatively happy in his ideal importance, that there is a degree of cruelty in destroying the illusion. The adage, “you think you are happy because you are wise;—I think I am wise because I am happy,” is not easily confuted*.

“But this admirable romance carries me farther than I intended. I was led into it by considering the comparative merit of Cervantes and Hogarth; in doing which it is proper to observe, that the motley follies of England, diametrically opposite to those of Spain, are changeable as an April day. Our English moralist (for surely he is worthy of the title) transferred them to his canvas or copper, and exposed them by pointed ridicule.

“But his satyric histories had a higher and still more useful direction. They were calculated to encourage industry, and promote humanity in the lower orders of society, by exhibiting the baneful consequences of idleness and cruelty; and to check the ostentatious follies of those in a higher rank, by pointing out the happiness attendant on the practice of virtue, and the consequent misery of dissipation, sensuality, and vice.

“I hope the warmest admirers of Cervantes will not be offended if I venture to assert, that these were objects of more national and individual importance than was the extirpation of knight errantry,

“Both these great men may be considered as universal classics, for while Cervantes delights the learned and the illiterate in his own country, and is translated and eagerly read in France, Italy, Germany, and England; while the artists of all these nations emulate each other in delineating the scenes he has described, and every age and rank peruse *Don Quixote* with pleasure,—the fame of Hogarth is not bounded by the shores of Albion, but takes as wide a circuit through Europe, and his pictured stories are contemplated with admiration by men of every clime.

“Could their congenial spirits witness the tribute posterity pay to their talents, how would they be gratified!”

* The mad peer in Pope's imitation of Horace, was not very grateful to the d—d doctor,

“Who from a patriot of distinguish'd note,
Blister'd and bled him to a single vote.”

The Appendix, consisting of about 50 pages, in small print, contains, what must be singularly useful to collectors, a catalogue of Hogarth's prints, with their numerous variations, and a list of such as have been improperly ascribed to him; also a list of such prints as were engraved by other artists, to ridicule the *Analysis*, *Times*, &c. &c. Of the correctness with which this part of the work is performed, we shall not undertake to pronounce; but as Mr. Ireland has the reputation of understanding the artist, and has studied his prints with great attention, we conceive it to be accurate.

ART. XII. *Miscellaneous Observations on the Effects of Oxygen on the animal and vegetable Systems; illustrated by Experiments, and interspersed with chemical, physiological, pathological, and practical Remarks. And an Attempt to prove, why some Plants are evergreen and others deciduous, in the Climate of Great Britain and Ireland. Part I. By Clement Archer, Esq. M. R. I. A. &c. &c. 8vo. 144 pp. 3s. Dilly. 1798.*

THIS book commences with a preliminary dissertation, wherein the author relates the accidental experiment which suggested the investigation of the subject of his work. He describes also, in a short but clear manner, Dr. Crawford's doctrine of heat; gives a sketch of the phlogistic and antiphlogistic theories, applying them to the explanation of the phenomena of respiration and other processes; he introduces Dr. Beddoes's theory concerning the effects of artificial airs in consumptions and other diseases, with which theory Mr. Archer seems to be perfectly satisfied; he also describes the construction and the use of Fontana's eudiometer; and takes notice of various collateral particulars.

If we except the above-mentioned original or accidental experiment, which will be described in the following paragraphs, the rest of this preliminary dissertation consists of such particulars as have been repeatedly mentioned, described, or discussed, in a variety of publications. Mr. Archer however excuses himself by saying, in more places than one, that his work is intended not merely for the philosopher, or man of science; "but likewise for the instruction and amusement of a few female friends and acquaintances, who wish to become experimenters on the atmosphere, and the air elaborated by plants."

The

The original experiment is briefly as follows :

Having in the exercise of his profession bled a corpulent lady, by puncturing a vein in the inside of the wrist (that being more visible than any other) he found that after having obtained an insufficient quantity of blood, the stream ceased, and the blood continued to come out only by successive drops. Willing to accelerate the operation, he had recourse to the action of electricity, and after having placed the patient upon an insulating stool, and having connected her with the prime conductor of an electrical machine, he found that the working of the machine caused the blood to come out in a small, but continued stream.

"The following phenomena," says he, "now attracted my attention: the lady (who was naturally very far from being affected by trifling inconveniences) instantly complained of a sensation of acute smarting at the orifice, from which the blood was flowing, and immediately after, I observed a beautiful fringed of exceedingly minute filaments begin to arrange itself around the lips of the little puncture, composed of the gluten of the blood, the more fluid parts having been separated and driven off from it by the electric aura, which, conducted by the blood, flowed with it into a third cup I had placed to receive it.

"Having obtained as much blood as was judged sufficient, the lady was taken off the stool, and the hand was bound up, upon which the smarting sensation immediately subsided.

"When I came to examine the blood the next day, a most remarkable difference was perceivable between the appearance of the surface of the crassamentum of the blood in the two first cups that flowed, and of that which had been obtained by the assistance of electricity;—that in the former exhibited the usual *florid* appearance on the surface of the cake in each cup, whilst the blood in the last cup continued *blackish* throughout the whole depth of the coagulum."

The preliminary dissertation is followed by the narration of eleven experiments, made with blood and with plants; namely, by exposing the former to the action of saline and aerial substances; and by either extracting air from the latter, or exposing them to different aerial fluids.

One of the principal properties of the vegetable kingdom, which is pointed out by those experiments, is a difference between the evergreens and other plants; Mr. Archer having found, that the latter yield good oxygen air in the summer clear weather only; whereas, the former yield air throughout the whole year. He therefore is of opinion, that the elaboration of oxygen, is the only cause of the green colour and peculiar odour of plants in general; and he also thinks to have found experimental proof, sufficient to assert, that the irritability of plants is owing to the same cause. In p. 51, he thus expresses himself.

"Is the elaboration of oxygen the only cause of the green colour and peculiar odour of plants in general? I believe it is. Why do you think so? Because when plants are secluded from light (by the influence of which only they can perform that function) they become white in their colour, and vapid in their smell; and when they are reduced to this state, instead of separating pure oxygen from the air, they transmit azote. Do the leaves of deciduous trees and those of evergreens yield oxygen air in nearly equal proportions daily, during the time the former are in verdure? The experiments I have made enable me to answer in the negative. Whilst the leaves of leaf-falling trees are succulent, and as long as they are assisted by the bright sunshine and warm temperature of summer and a part of autumn, they give out a greater quantity of respirable air by day, and more azotic gas by night, than an equal weight of the leaves of any evergreen can be made to do; but as soon as slight autumnal frosts begin to set in, deciduous leaves lose their vivid green colour and become yellowish; and when once the leaf of any tree assumes such an appearance, or manifests any other symptom of approaching decay, it is a proof that it is no longer capable of separating pure air. Why does not frost produce the same effect on the leaves of evergreens, that it does on those of leaf-falling trees?"

This difference he attributes to the moisture which is absorbed by the latter, and not by the evergreens, which moisture being converted into ice in the course of the night, destroys their organization, &c. It may then be obviously observed, that the simple reason why evergreens continue to yield air in the winter time, while other plants cease to elaborate any, is that the former retain their leaves, while the latter are deprived of those organs.

After the narration of the experiments, this author subjoins several short sections, with investigations, concerning the circulation of the sap in plants; the nature of the air produced by particular vegetables; the probable cause of the flavour of fruit; the influence of plantations in great domains at different times of the day; together with collateral remarks and practical deductions, especially relative to the use of artificial air, for the cure of diseases.

The latter part of this work contains a useful dissertation; or,

"A brief account of the discovery, composition, properties, and uses in medicine, surgery, and the arts, of the oxygenated muriatic acid, or bleaching liquor."

A short Appendix, with some of the practical methods for producing fixed air, oxygen air, hydrogen gas, nitrous air, and hydrocarbonate, occupies the last four pages of the book. In the course of this work, the reader will successively meet with
good

good reasoning and obvious explanations; with some useful new facts, but many trivial remarks; with some obscure passages, and a few vulgar expressions. Yet, upon the whole, the performance is instructive, and we think it deserving the attention of the lovers of science.

ART. XIII. *Oberon, a Poem, from the German of Wieland.*
By William Sotheby, Esq. In Two Volumes. Crown 8vo.
12s. Cadell and Davies. 1798.

THIS beautiful Poem, which we read three months ago, with great delight, would sooner have been noticed in our pages, had we not accidentally been obliged to wait some time to procure a copy of the original. To compare the English with the German we esteemed a necessary part of our task, and withheld our commendation of Mr. Sotheby as a poet, till we could ascertain in what rank he stands as a translator. We can now say, without hesitation, that in the one light and in the other, he appears with equal lustre. His English style is spirited and poetical, his versification generally harmonious, with a rich store of rhymes, in a stanza that requires much art to supply its demands. His *Oberon*, as a poem, will delight all those for whom poetry has any charms. As a translator, Mr. Sotheby is judicious and able; well skilled in the language he has undertaken to interpret; and whether he amplifies or compresses the ideas of his author, he generally confers upon him new spirit and new grace.

Wieland is generally considered, and we believe wishes to be regarded, as the Voltaire of Germany. His talents are versatile; and, whatever he writes either in poetry or prose, has a liveliness and elegance not often equalled by the writers of his country. His dialogues, some of which (we are sorry to say) have for that very reason been rendered into English, abound with infidelity, democracy, and all the charms of modern philosophy; but his present poem does not seem liable to any such objections. It is a fairy tale, the foundation of which is an ingenious fiction purporting that, after the adventure which forms the subject of Chaucer's January and May, Oberon and Titania came to a bitter quarrel; the Fairy King being desperately angry, that female artifice was made to triumph over the evidence even of the senses. His wrath and consequent vow are thus expressed by Mr. Sotheby.

Shelley's Oberon.

" XCIII.

" Titania! now thou hear'st"—with scornful air
 The elfin monarch says, " a little tear
 Bloss out what eyes beheld—thou triumph'st here—
 Yet, mark the oath! the holiest oath I swear—
 I lov'd thee, and I thought myself below'd!
 And all my life a sweet enchantment prov'd—
 'Twas but a dream!—'tis thou dissolv'st the charm—
 Think not a tear shall Oberon disarm!—
 Hence! fly to haunts unblest, from love and me remov'd!

XCIX.

On earth, in air, and sea, we meet no more!
 Nor in the groves whose branches balsam weep;
 Nor where in secret caverns dark and deep,
 The griffin broods enchanted treasures o'er!
 Thy breath pollutes the air that round thee blows!
 Hence, in each tainted gale infection flows!—
 Fly! woe to thee! and the deceitful brood,
 Thy sex! and woe the slave by love subdu'd!
 I loathe ye all alike!—all bane of my repose!

C.

And when a man within the wedded snare,
 Urg'd by voluptuous impulse lowly woe,
 Pleas'd to be caught, and while he pants and cooes,
 Sweet poison sucks from looks so seeming fair—
 Thinks it is love when fires unhallow'd wake
 Th' envenom'd passions of the bosom-snake—
 And when the firen speaks, enchanted ears,
 Trusts her loud oath, believes her traitor tears,
 May penury, woe, and pain, the willing fool o'take!

CI.

And now by that tremendous God I swear!
 By him whom spirits silently adore!
 No pow'r shall shake the solemn oath I swore,
 Till, mark'd by fate itself, a youthful pair,
 Warm'd by pure love, and faith's undying flame,
 In weal or woe eternally the same,
 Joys that seduce, and pains that tame the heart,
 Their souls still join'd, tho' doom'd by fate to part,
 By innocence absolve this deed of wanton shame!

CII.

And when this union of congenial souls
 Shall meet in love, and fate's severest stroke
 Sustain, while patience smiles beneath the yoke;
 And o'er their brow when raging ocean rolls,
 Still hold their plighted faith, and chaste desires;
 And when they truth prefer mid tort'ring fires
 To sycen pleasure on a proffer'd throne—
 Be this accomplish'd, then, and then alone,
 Again we meet in bliss—but now, e'en hope expires!" P. 201.

The

The hero and heroine of the piece, Huon and Rezia, or Amanda, are the persons destined to absolve Oberon from this alarming oath, and their trials are accordingly tremendous. A singular proof of the writer's skill is, that though most of the adventures are placed in the land of impossibilities, and carried on by the intervention of præternatural power, and though the principal features of the hero's sufferings are not very judiciously anticipated in the introductory stanzas, yet an interest is preserved, and the reader is made anxious to find out how, even by fairy aid, such perplexing events are to be brought to a happy conclusion. Still it remains true, that the interest would have been stronger, beyond all comparison, had the anticipation been avoided; and had the translator, who in other points has used judicious liberties, allowed himself to retrench all passages of that kind, he would very materially have improved the effect of Oberon as a tale. This anticipation of a story, not yet known, has also the effect of throwing an obscurity over all the introductory stanzas, which in other respects are highly poetical. The comparison of the two first stanzas in the German and English, will enable such of our readers as know the former language, to appreciate the mode of translation adopted.

" 1.

Noch einmal sattelt mir den Hippogryfen, ihr Mäusen,
Zum ritt ins alte romantische land!
Wie lieblich um meinen entseßelten busen
Der holde wahnsinn spielt? Wer schlang das magische band
Um meine stirne? Wer treibt von meinen augen den nebel,
Der auf der Vorwelt wundern liegt?
Ich seh, in buntem gewühl, bald siegend, bald besiegt,
Des Ritters gutes schwert, der Heyden blinkende säbel.

2.

Vergebens knirscht des alten Sultans zorn,
Vergebens dräut ein wald von starren lauzen:
Es tönt in lieblichem ton das elfenbeinerne horn,
Und, wie ein wirbel, ergreift sie alle die wut zu tanzen.
Sie drehn im kreise sich um bis sinn und athem entgeht:
Triumpf, herr Ritter, triumpf! gewonnen ist die Schöne.
Was säumt ihr? fort! der wimpel weht;
Nach Rom, daß euer bund der heil'ge Vater kröne." P. 1.

" 1.

Yet once again, ye Mäusen! once again
Saddle the Hippogryf! and wing my way
Where regions of romance their charms display.
What lovely dreams entrance th' unsettl'd brain?

Who

Who round my brow the wreath enchanted braids?
 Who from my ravish'd eye dispels the shades
 That veil the wonders of the world of old?
 Now conquering, conquer'd now, in battle bold,
 I see the knight's good sword, the Pagans sparkling blades.

11.

In vain the hoary sultan foams: in vain
 A wood of threat'ning lances bristles round:
 It breathes, the ivory horn with sprightly sound,
 And, whirl'd in eddying dance, the giddy train
 Spin, till their breath and senses die away.
 Triumph! the Fair is won: why, knight delay?
 Forward to Rome: for thee th' extended sail
 And beck'ning streamer fly before the gale.
 Haste! that the holy fire may bless your bridal day!" P. 1.

It is evident, that all this introduction must have been written after the poem was completed, which is not natural.

The fifth stanza of this canto is in general finely translated: but, "before your vacant eye," is an injudicious insertion, instead of "in your pressing or *sovinging* distress." Chance and Fortune are also too synonymous in the last line;

Chance, fortune, nature join to whelm your helpless head.

In the German it is only Nature. In the 42d stanza, the narrative, though energetic in English, is less so than in the original, and less simple. In the second canto, the seventh stanza is elegantly rendered, but *want* is not judiciously substituted for poverty. In *actual want*, it is not easy to be *blest*, in the sense of happy, but in poverty it may and does happen. We quote the opening of the 28th stanza, as an instance of the original being improved by the translator.

Ein knäblein, schön als wie auf seiner mutter schoos,
 Der liebesgott, saß in dem silberwagen
 Die zügel in der hand. Da kömmt er auf uns los.

"A boy more beautiful than the God of Love
 In smiling Cytherea's soft embrace,
 Sat in the silver car with heav'nly grace,
 And held the silken reins, and onward drove," Vol. i, p. 53.

Another instance of this kind we might cite from the fourth canto, stanzas 22 and 23; and one more we cannot refrain from taking out of the eighth.

" 52.

In seinem ansehn war die angeborne Würde,
 Die, unverhüllbar, auch durch eine kette scheint;
 Sein offner blick war aller Wesen freund,
 Und schien gewohnt, wie wol der jahre bürde
 Den naken sanftgekrümmt, stets himmelwärts zu schau'n;
 Der innre friede ruht auf seinen augenbrau'n,

Und

Und wie ein fels zu dem sich wolken nie erheben,
Scheint überm erdentauch die reine stirn zu schweben.

53.

Den rost der welt, der leidenschaften spur,
Hat längst der fluss der zeit von ihr hinweggewaschen.
Fiel' eine Kron' ihm zu, und es bedürfte nur
Sie mit der hand im fallen aufzuhaschen,
Er streckte nicht die hand. Berschlaffen der Begier,
Von keiner furcht, von keinem schmerz betroffen,
Ist nur dem Wahren noch die heitre seele offen,
Nur offen der Natur, und reingestimmt zu ihr." P. 204.

" xiv.

Plain on his noble aspect shone confest,
Grandeur, beneath a cowl, that mildly gleam'd;
His eye a smile on all creation beam'd:
And though the touch of time had gently prest
His neck, soft bow'd beneath the weight of years,
Sublimely rais'd to heaven, his brow appears
The shrine of peace; and like a sun-gilt height,
Where never earthly mist obscur'd the light,
Above the stormy world its tranquil summit rears.

xv.

Time from his features long had worn away
The rust of earth, and passion's gloomy frown:
He would not stoop to grasp a falling crown,
Nor bend the sceptre of a world to sway.
Free from the vain desires that earth enthral,
Free from vain errors that mankind appal,
Untouch'd by pain, and unassail'd by fear,
To truth alone he turn'd his mental ear:
Alone to nature tun'd, and her sweet simple call."

Vol. II, p. 58.

" His eye a beam on all creation beam'd," is particularly improved from the German. We shall now have enabled both the mere English reader to judge of the poetry of Mr. Sotheby, and the German critic to estimate his powers in translation. As English critics, we shall only add, that the language in general is pure and elegant. The following expression is obscure.

" To Babylon he speeds with loosen'd rein,
And, " comes it, comes it soon," yet still I ween,
Rose many a hill and wilderness between." P. 7.

This obscurity is occasioned by omitting the three words, " Scots denkt er," *still thinks he*, the sense of which is not sufficiently implied by inclosing the words between commas. It may be remarked also, that the translator takes the liberty

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to put *Babylon* occasionally for *Bagdat*, which is not historical*. "Our hero," a very low and burlesque expression, is often used by Mr. S. in his verse, as at stanza 36, "unprepar'd for such a dance," sounds awkwardly in English. In canto ii, stanza 4, "Down among them," is too colloquially familiar. In stanza 36, "*goblers*" is a very strange word for tribes of goblins. One singular instance of obscurity appears at page 98 of vol. ii.

"The wretch begins the *Basque's* great oath to swear."

The greater part of English readers may surely torture themselves in vain to discover what is meant by "the *Basque's* great oath." The German is made clear by inserting "*Je- tregris*," which is the oath in question; the usual oath of Henry IV, of France, who was a *Basque* or *Gascon*. Considering the length of the poem, however, it is liable to a few exceptions: and does the highest credit to the skill and talents of the translator.

ART. XIV. *A Treatise on the Study of the Law, containing Directions to Students, written by those celebrated Lawyers, Orators, and Statesmen, the Lords Mansfield, Ashburton, and Thurlow; in a Series of Letters to their respective young Friends. With Notes and Additions, by the Editor.* 8vo. 3s. 6d. Harrison, Cluse, and Co. 1797.

WHETHER the letters inserted in the work are the genuine productions of those great men whose names are given in the title-page, we cannot take upon ourselves to determine. If they are truly referred to their real parents, they are the hasty effusions of moments fortuitously snatched from other avocations, by minds too much occupied to bring all their judgment and recollection to bear upon this subject. The four first are given to Earl Mansfield, and are said, in a note, to have appeared in the *European Magazine* for March, 1791, and February, March, April, and May, 1792. The several titles are, 1. Of Ancient History. 2. Modern History. 3. English History. 4. A Course of Law Studies. Those who have heard of Lord Mansfield may feel some surprise, that the noble Earl proposes this as "a course of studies for about four months," and that he should talk "of tinging (his scholar) betimes with the *ideas natural* to such a character," i. e. "a wit, a statesman, a courtier, and a scholar." They might

* We perceive, on examination, that the original author has done the same.

further

Further hesitate, when a man of his lordship's various knowledge, and classic attainments, commences his instructions, as with a fundamental axiom, by saying, that he will not "plague his pupil with Greek," and immediately afterwards condemns "antitheses and flowers" as false eloquence, although such of his own speeches as remain to us, peculiarly abound with ornaments such as he is here made to reprobate. Some of this wonder may perhaps be removed, when we attend to the information given in a note, that these letters were written to a noble Duke. But then we are compelled to observe, that however fit such a course of study may be for a gay and fashionable young man, it is wholly unsuited to those who design to cultivate the law as a profession. It may have been wisely planned to allure a young mind, lolling in the bosom of affluence, to some taste for learning. Possibly it is not ill calculated to cover the nakedness of an understanding just beginning to distinguish good from evil, so as to remove the fear of shame. But it is much too narrow and superficial to add ornament or dignity to the mind. It is much too flimsy to form a plan of study for the young man who aspires to gain the high honours of his profession by talents, information, and industry.

We say this of the two first Letters, which seem to be all that the notes intend to describe as being, sent to a noble Duke. The Third Letter, which gives a plan of reading English history, is said to have been written by Lord Mansfield to Mr. Drummond; in 1774, and contains nothing which any other person, who had seen Bishop Nicholson's account of our English historians, might not have written. The Fourth Letter should not be entitled a Course of Law Studies, generally, for it only refers to some books of natural, civil, and feudal law; and does not comprehend the study of our municipal institutions. Without pretending to decide peremptorily for the authenticity of this letter, it is not easy to persuade us that one who was the delight of Pope, the ornament of the court; of the senate; and of the highest judicial tribunals, could commit such a vulgarism to paper, as "Long comments would only confound you and make your head spin round." Or such a vague instruction to a young man, as to desire him to "Dip occasionally into the pandects."

Neither of the papers attributed to Mr. Dunning or to Lord Thurlow, contain a perspicuous or well-arranged plan of legal study. In the former we meet with the following sentence: "It is usual to acquire some insight into real business, under an eminent special pleader, previous to actual practice at the bar." "This idea I beg leave strongly to second." Against the latter part of this sentence we beg leave strongly to protest,

as not being common English. In the plan ascribed to Earl Thurlow, there is one person pointed out as an object for the student's imitation, whom, we are fully persuaded, that noble Lord would never have proposed as a model.

The remainder of this book is compiled and abstracted from other publications on the same subject. It does not pretend to originality, and we cannot compliment the author, that he has displayed either taste or judgment in the selection which he has made. The best passages are taken from a work, entitled the Barrister, which we are well persuaded is there attributed to a wrong person. Page 62 is disgraced by a most execrable and ignorant animadversion upon the Commentaries. Can the man who inserts in his book such a calumnious assertion, as that "the Commentaries of Blackstone have met with success, but have not deserved it," expect that his work can be recommended to students, or will ever become a favourite with the public?

ART. XV. *Sermons preached to parochial Congregations, by the late Reverend Richard Southgate*, B. A., Many Years Curate of St. Giles's in the Fields, and some time Rector of Warsep, Nottinghamshire. With a Biographical Preface. By George Gustin, D. D. &c. In Two Volumes. 8vo. 12s. Leigh and Sotheby. 1798.*

WERE we called upon to pronounce an eulogium on lately departed worth, whom, in his line, could we with more propriety select than Mr. Southgate? Curate, for the full space of twenty-nine years, to one of the most populous parishes in the metropolis, he exercised the difficult functions of that situation, in a manner which leaves to subsequent ministers, whether rectors or curates, a noble example for imitation; with little hope of equalling, very little of surpassing, the diligence and success of his pious exertions. With many other excellent features of character, this is so peculiarly dignified and valuable, that we shall select the description of its exercise, rather than

* A very kind and friendly correspondent, who wrote to us lately on the subject of these Sermons, may be assured that they were not out of mind. But "when two men ride on a horse, one must ride behind,"—and which books innumerable are to be noticed, chance, instead of reason, must now and then determine the order of precedence.

any other part, from the life prefixed by Dr. Gaskin, the judicious admirer, and as much as any man perhaps, the rival of his piety.

"In this very laborious curacy he continued till the time of his death, exhibiting an illustrious portraiture of a learned, pious, and most indefatigable conscientious parish-priest. For very many years, he had no stated assistant in the discharge of his parochial duties; and he often performed, on the same day, the several offices of the church belonging to the function of a parish minister, all which too he ever performed with the utmost solemnity and devotion.

"As a preacher, his voice and manner were not perhaps the most attracting; but, that he was sound in the faith, and eminently skilful in rightly dividing, and forcibly applying, the word of truth, these volumes will abundantly testify.

"If, in any parts of the pastoral office, more than in others, he was particularly laborious, it was in visiting, catechizing, and exhorting the poor. In the parish of St. Giles, the baptisms at the font are daily, and very numerous; on which occasions, he constantly either catechized or lectured the sponsors, awfully impressing upon them the high importance of an attention, not only to the charge there undertaken, but to the various obligations and privileges of the christian life; and the good seed so judiciously and seasonably sown, at those times, could not but be eminently fruitful. In visiting the sick, and particularly the sick poor, he was almost every day engaged, as his intimate friends well know, and his journal testifies; praying with, and exhorting, the afflicted to submit patiently to the chastening hand of God, counselling the profligate, and inconsiderate, to reflect upon, and amend their ways, and, admonishing all to flee from the wrath to come, and accept the salvation tendered in the gospel, on the terms it prescribes. When he became able, his prayers, and exhortations, were frequently accompanied with his alms, administering at once to the spiritual and the bodily wants of his poor parishioners. No clergyman, probably, in his day, was more, and very few certainly were so much, engaged in those interesting and highly useful parts of the pastoral office, as Mr. SOUTHGATE. It was as meat and drink to him to do the will of his heavenly father; and in the most laborious work of the vineyard of his great master, he was constantly and cheerfully occupied," Pref. p. xi.

Mr. Southgate was born March 16, 1729, the son of a considerable farmer in Huntingdonshire. Being patronized by Dr. Thomas, then Bishop of Lincoln, he was enabled to go to the University, and entered at St. John's College, Cambridge. Not obtaining a fellowship, he quitted Cambridge soon after taking his Bachelor's degree, and was employed on curacies in various counties. In 1763 he was invited to London to the curacy of St. James's parish, and in 1765 removed to that of St. Giles, where he continued till his death. His preferment came to him late in life, the first being a small rectory given by the

the Duke of Ancester, in 1783. In 1784, he was appointed an assistant librarian of the British Museum; and, in 1790, through the friendship and presentation of John Galley Knight, Esq. he obtained the valuable rectory of Warsop in Nottinghamshire. But he was then 60, and he survived this preferment not five years, his end being apparently accelerated by the severe winter of 1794. The charities of Mr. Southgate had always borne an ample proportion to his means, and his last preferment enabled him not only to extend them, but to gratify his inclination in collecting books and coins. In these latter pursuits he was so judicious as well as ardent, that his books sold after his death for more than two thousand pounds, and his medals, &c. for not much less. The account of his life prefixed to these volumes, is closed by the epigraph inscribed to his memory in St. Giles's church, the scene of his long and meritorious labours, and is highly apposite and instructive.

Whoever should form his expectation of the Sermons here published, from the most honourable estimate of the author's merits, will be far from disappointed. They are perhaps as replete with genuine Christian instruction as such discourses can possibly be; animated throughout by a spirit of sincere and vivid piety, peculiarly adapted to the necessities of a great London parish, and such as could not have been produced by a preacher who did not know both his hearers and his duties with admirable exactness. The topics in general are interesting and useful; and even those, which on the first glance might be considered as trite, are enriched by such new and truly pious observations, as render them highly valuable.

In perusing these volumes, we have filled our copy with marks of passages that deserve to be cited; but as it is impossible for us to insert any great number of those we have noted, we shall take our chief specimens from an excellent sermon, in the first volume, against Discontent. After explaining the impiety of murmuring under those chastisements which God sends for our amendment, the preacher thus continues.

“ But, secondly, that we survive the afflicting hand of God, is an instance of his mercy. Death is the proper penalty of sin. The soul that sinneth, it shall die. Our life is, then, the last we have to offer. As soon as this forfeiture is paid by the impenitent, the man is insolvent, and still remains a debtor: he is then consigned to the prison, from whence there is no release. Behold here the justice of God. But till the awful period arrives, man remains a monument of mercy. What, then, though he be chastened for his offences? yet he is chastened on the theatre of life. Perhaps, his sins have been great and numberless. He has been warned before, and yet is spared. Shall he, then, complain of the chastisement of God, and see no cause to acknowledge his forbearance? The Prophet teaches us a more becoming lesson.

This

This was his consolation, amidst his calamities. This I recall to mind, and therefore have I hope.—“It is of the Lord’s mercies, that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. O Lord, thou hast pleaded the cause of my soul, thou hast redeemed my life.” The carnal murmurer considers the evils of his sufferings, but not their alleviations. He feels the rod, and complains; but remembers not, that that life which was forfeited, is still spared; and, therefore, adds ingratitude to his other sins.

“But, further, why doth a living man complain for what he suffers? Who is there, of an awakened conscience, that will not acknowledge, that he suffers less than his iniquities deserve? He has not *been*, perhaps, a notorious transgressor: the eyes of the censorious are not directed towards him. No; he maintains a character for integrity; all applaud him, and all sympathise with him. But, far be it from a Christian to assume any claim from God for this, or any exemption from those calamities, which are the lot of man. He is conscious, perhaps, that, though he has received much from the hands of God, he has returned but little, nor has improved his faculties with so much zeal and spirit as he ought: he has not supported a constant spirituality of temper. Or, his own backslidings reprove him, and he is desirous of being humbled under them. He is convinced of many omissions of his duty, many secret faults, and many imperfections, which adhere to his brightest virtues. When God, therefore, threatens, he waits *his* good pleasure with resignation,—“It is the Lord, let him do what seemeth him good:” and when the threatening is actually inflicted, he bows the head and worships: he cries out with the Prophet, “Thou art just, O Lord, in all thou hast brought upon us; for thou art righteous, but we have done wickedly.” For he is assured, that God cannot wrong his creatures, that infinite wisdom cannot err, and infinite goodness cannot willingly grieve the children of men.” Vol. i, p. 129.

To that species of discontent which is too apt to break out in murmurings against our governors, he adverts in the following truly Christian style.

“We, then, my brethren, that survive, should always keep our attention awake to the true cause of human misfortunes. For want of this, we have no resource, when they come upon us. We look here and there, to find relief; and we find it not. We accuse our fortune. The winds, the waves, the seasons, are adverse to us, and they hear not our complaints; we bemoan the treachery of our friends, or the number of our enemies; we curse God, and the king; we blame, through ignorance, and condemn, through malice. Our former comforts lose their relish: we fear, when there is no cause of fear; and suspect, lest the most innocent things should become our bane. In private life, we lose the sweets of domestic enjoyment; we carry our misfortunes home, and become tormentors to all about us. In public life, we quarrel with our superiors, and would have them work miracles. When we are lost to a sense of God, we make man answerable for the events of his providence. In vain! man may act with wisdom and caution, but cannot ensure a successful issue. Public events are in the hands of
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of God, and may receive their final accomplishment in distant ages. In the mean time, we suffer; we cannot but feel public distress, but neither see nor know the all-direc-ting hand that smites us. Willfully blind, we impute not our grievances to the source we ought. But know, O sinful man, thou art, to thyself, the greatest grievance. Thou vain pretender to liberty and truth, if the whole world were free, thou wouldest be a slave. What thou sufferest, even from thine enemies, is nothing to the wounds thou inflictst upon thyself. No man that is faithful to God, and his own soul, can feel the bitterness of woe. Men may deprive the freeman of Christ of outward comforts, but not of inward consolation. They may torment, and kill, the body, but the better part remains, and will remain. It is in the hand of God, and will sur vive the injuries of this world. Whoever, then, thou art, look not abroad, but look into thine own breast; and thou wilt see the whole cause of thy sufferings unravelled.

“ Lastly, since, then, the language of politicians is not the language of the religion we profess, let me recommend it to you, my brethren, to lay the words of life before you. Whilst the carnal principles of the world tend to make you strangers to yourselves, the word of God is a faithful glass, in which you may see, not only what you are, but what you ought to be. It is this which enlightens the darkness of the soul, and brings to open view the secret venom of the heart. Here, then, begin the trial: by this, and by this alone, examine your principles, your motives, your affections: nor be content with this; but call for the assistance of God’s spirit there, where it is wanted most, that it may actually begin the cure, and strike that rock, which is the source of evil. You will then see the necessity of the corrections of mercy, and say, with penitent David, “ Cleanse thou me, and I shall be cleansed; save me, and I shall be saved, for thou art my praise.” Since this is the welcome end of our lives, and labours, whatever means conduce thereto, must be welcome also.” Vol. i, p. 136.

A Sermon, which occurs a little further in this volume, on *the Evils of Licentiousness*, thus exposes their operation in the present age.

“ Innumerable are the instances of these evils, afforded by the history of our own, and every other, nation. During the civil wars, and the Oliverian usurpation, when fanaticism blew the trumpet of rebellion, no good man can read the shameful prostitutions of God’s word, the crying acts of injustice, the merciless oppressions that then prevailed, together with the total overthrow of true religion, and good manners, without astonishment. And, if we turn our eyes to a neighbouring country, the crimes of our former ages are there accumulated, and present such a picture, as none but the wicked can look upon, even for a moment, without horror. These are mirrors, which show the extravagance of human licence: by gradual efforts, it, at length, establishes the empire of violence; and, by whatever name it dignifies itself, every duty which we owe to God is sure to be degraded; and the most virtuous, and conscientious, will be the greatest sufferers.

“ Thus men, by doing whatever is right, in their own eyes, are, themselves, the destroyers of true liberty. Nothing is so easily per-
verted,

rected; by the licentious, as freedom; and therefore, free governments, in order to preserve it, whilst they are tender to human infirmity, should check the first efforts of the bold, and, with unrelenting hand, should execute the laws against malignant offenders. What a delightful prospect would appear,—alas! too pleasing to be expected in their scenes of guilt, if justice always overtook the insolent aggressor, and if mildness were not abused by the licentious. A free constitution would, then, be the greatest of earthly blessings, since it would be a blessing to the good, a protection to the weak, a security to the innocent, a relief to the wretched. The voice of oppression would, then, be heard no more; the profane would be silent; the shameless would not glory in their shame; nor wickedness appear with the ensigns of authority. Religion would, then, be encouraged; the modest would be rewarded; and pious men would lead a quiet and peaceable life, in all godliness and honesty." Vol. i, p. 177.

One passage from the second volume we cannot refrain from taking. It is part of a Sermon on the *Advantages of Youthful Trials*. Mr. Southgate considers these first as means of discipline to conquer pride, the love of pleasure, and other evil passions, and to produce patience and resignation. After which, he thus sums up his account.

"Such are the benefits arising from early affliction. It is the instrument of God, by which he teaches, and disciplines his children. That we may not mistake this truth, or mistaking it, be left without excuse, he hath left us many examples upon record, and given us frequent and express declarations of it. Doubtless, had we the guidance of ourselves, the gentlest gales would waft us on our way; and we should calmly sit down the unruffled stream to the harbour of our rest. The natural desire of happiness is perpetual. Mere nature is so impatient of its absence, that it urges men to catch rather at the fleeting form, which is present; than wait for the enduring substance, which is to come. But God hath otherwise decreed. Search the scriptures. What holy patriarch, or pious prophet, what favourite of heaven, and child of God, was not also the child of affliction? Did not Christ bear his cross? And wouldst thou, O Christian, be exempt? If thou art what thou pretendest, thou canst not be exempt; for God hath predestinated thee to be conformed to his image. Sooner or later, this is his call to all the heirs of his kingdom,—come under the yoke and receive instruction. And whilst he vouchsafes to lay it upon some, he commands others to lay it upon themselves.

"Call not this, my brethren, a gloomy view of religion. We must draw it after the pattern, in which God has drawn it. Otherwise, it will be no longer the portrait of religion, but the child of our own fancy, the production of our own humour. However, though the cross be an attendant upon religion, it has joys peculiar to itself, with which the pleasures of the world, and that delusive thing, called happiness, can come in no competition. It is attended with a freedom from the boisterous storms of passion, and the craving of an irregular appetite. It feels not the stings of conscience, nor dreads the evil of future days.

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It is enlivened with a sense of God's protection, cherished by his paternal love, and knows the singular bliss of communion with him. Though, then, the yoke of Christ be still a yoke, it is a yoke easy and delightful to be borne." Vol. ii, p. 86.

In Sermon 18 of this volume, a difficult passage is satisfactorily explained. The reader will of himself perceive in all the passages here adduced, that the language of Mr. Southgate is plain, equable, and good; sometimes even sublime. We have not remarked any uncommon or affected words, except perhaps "reluctate," in the page just cited. We cannot better conclude our account, than in these words of his editor.

"He, being dead, yet speaketh," warning and admonishing the profligate, the careless, and the formal, to turn from the error of their ways; administering the consolations of the Gospel to the humble and dejected penitent; and encouraging the true and consistent Christian, to persevere steadfastly in "the faith once delivered to the saints," and, devoutly using the means of grace instituted in THE CHURCH, to persevere in well-doing, looking for that high and glorious recompence of reward, which, for Christ's sake, will be the portion of the righteous." P. v.

ART. XVI. *The Works of Horatio Walpole, Earl of Orford, Five Volumes.* 4to. 10l. 10s. Robinsons and Edwards. 1798.

THE works of a nobleman who has so well commemorated the writers of his own rank in life, ought undoubtedly to appear in a respectable form; but we doubt the policy of raising them to a bulk and price which seems to exclude almost all but royal and noble purchasers. Having known and respected Lord Orford, we ourselves feel some chagrin at being thus placed among those who are forbidden to possess his works entire, and can only take refuge in the hope, that some future time may produce a more purchasable edition. But this is not all the regret which we have felt in taking up these gigantic quartos. The more we had been pleased with the affability and wit of Lord Orford's conversation, the more desirous we were to have his name esteemed among mankind; the more deeply do we lament, in common with many of his real friends, that various passages in the posthumous part of the collection were not suppressed. It may seem perhaps to some persons a superfluous, or even an improper care in an editor, to be more jealous of an author's reputation than he was himself, or to withhold any thing from the public eye, which he had prepared and

and selected for it. Yet if an author were about to publish, in his life, such things as would injure his reputation, it would be the part of a sincere friend to remonstrate strongly with him, and, if possible, to prevent him. When he can no longer act for himself, the exercise of a discretionary power by friends, with respect to such matters as he might probably, on remonstrance, have withdrawn, is surely no breach of moral obligation, but rather a kindness, for which the departed author, could he be sensible of it, would be highly grateful. For want of such judicious interference, whatever serious persons respected this noble writer in his life, will feel a painful diminution of that sentiment, from seeing him, in many parts of these volumes, as a frequent sneerer at religion, an enemy to its ministers in general, and a calumniator of some of the most excellent in that, or any other class of men. Let not these expressions be thought harsh. They are used with regret; and with the sincerest wish that every passage had been totally suppressed, and consigned to oblivion, which could give occasion for them. . . . But in times like these, the interests of virtue and religion are not to be compromised for any private respects. It is unnecessary for us to undertake the proof, of the foregoing assertion: it is the general voice of those whose sentiments on such subjects are of the greatest value. Without collecting the proof invidiously into one point, it will spontaneously arise, in some degree, from the course of our remarks, as we shall examine these volumes.

After this preface, extorted from us by a duty at once obvious and indispensable, we proceed to the more pleasing task of recounting the contents of volumes, wherein the greater part is valuable on many grounds, and in various points of view. Of the pieces which have been published before, we shall say little. Concerning these, the public judgment has been already pronounced, and it is in general favourable. So far, indeed, we may console ourselves for the high price of the present volumes, that those articles in them which were originally printed at Strawberry Hill, bore in that form an extravagant value, and they therefore, after all, are of less arduous purchase than they were before, except in spurious or imperfect editions. *The first volume* consists, in a great measure, of fugitive pieces; of which the twelve first are poetical. Among these there are very few that have not before appeared in print. Thus, to take them in their order, the *Verses in Memory of King Henry the Sixth*, may be found in Almon's or Debreu's *Foundling Hospital for Wit*, vol. i, p. 198. The *Epistles from Florence*, in *Dodley's Collection*, vol. iii, p. 78. The *Inscription for the Column in St. Mark's Place*, *Found. Hosp.* i, 201. *The Beauties*, an Epistle

Epistle to Eckardt, *Dodsl.* iii, 178. *Epilogue to Tamerlane*, *ib.* p. 100. *The Entail*, a Fable, *Found. Hosp.* i, 203. And the *Epigram on Admiral Vernon*, *ib.* p. 206. The *Mysterious Mother* has been printed in various forms, though it was scarcely till now published, without reserve, in a legitimate edition. It was first printed at Strawberry Hill, in 1768, but only given to a few friends. In 1781, it was printed by Doddsley, and at first intended for publication; but was kept back, from reserve or diffidence, and never advertised for sale till 1796. A spurious edition was printed in London, in duodecimo, in the same year; probably from that of Doddsley. Of this tragedy, it is generally and justly thought, that the plot is too horrid, and that particularly the transgression of the Countess is not sufficiently palliated, to render her character dramatically interesting. But it is full of fine writing, and contains perhaps more poetical passages than any contemporary drama*.

This enumeration leaves only three inconsiderable poems as new in the present edition; of which we shall cite one, remarkable for facility of versification, and graceful ease of humour. It is entitled,

"THE MAGPIE AND HER BROOD. A FABLE.
From the *Tales of Bonaventure des Periers, Valet de Chambre to the Queen of Navarre.*

Addressed to Miss HOTHAM†, 1764.

How anxious is the pensive parents thought!
How blest the fav'rite fondling's early lot!
Joy strings her hours on pleasure's golden twine,
And fancy forms it to an endless line.
But ah! the charm must cease, or soon or late,
When chicks and maids rise to woman's state.

* The author tells us, in his postscript, he had heard in his youth, that a transaction similar to the plot of this drama had been explained to Archbishop Tillotson, for his counsel and direction in the case. The offspring of the dreadful incest was then married to the unconscious perpetrator of it. "The prelate," he says, "charged her never to let her son and daughter know what had passed; as they were innocent of any criminal intention. For herself he bade her almost despair." He adds, that the story was afterwards discovered in the novels of the Queen of Navarre, vol. i, nov. 30. It is to be found also in Taylor's *Ductor dubitantium*, and in Mrs. Heywood's Novels. Let us hope that it never has existed, except in tales and novels.

† Henrietta, only daughter of Colonel Charles Hotham, by Lady Dorothy Hobart, daughter of John Earl of Buckinghamshire, with whose sister (Henrietta Countess Dowager of Suffolk) Miss Hotham, then ten years old, lived at Marble-hill, Twickenham.

The little tyrant grows in turn a slave,
And feels the soft anxiety she gave.
This truth, my pretty friend, an ancient wit,
Who many a jocund tale and legend writ,
Couch'd in that age's unaffected guise,
When Fables were the Wisdom of the Wise,
To careless notes I've run'd his gothic style,
Content, if you approve, and Suffolk smile.

Once on a time a magpie led
Her little family from home,
To teach them how to earn their bread,
When she in quest of a new mart should roam.
She pointed to each worm and fly,
That crept on earth, or wing'd the sky,
Or where the beetle buzz'd the call'd.

But all her documents were vain;
They would not budge; the urchin train
But caw'd, and cry'd, and squall'd.
They wanted to be back at nest,
Close nuzzled to mamma's warm breast;
And thought that she, poor soul! must sweat
Day after day to find them neat;

But Madge knew better things.
My loves, said she, behold the plains,
Where store of food and plenty reigns!
I was not half so big as you,
When me my honour'd mother drew
Forth to the groves and springs.
She flew away; God rest her spirit!
Though I could neither read nor write.

I made a shift to live.
So must you too: come, hop away;
Get what you can; steal what you may.
Th' industrious always thrive.

Lord bless us! cried the peevish chits,
Can babes like us live by their wits?
With perils compass'd round can we
Preserve our lives or liberty?
How shall we 'scape the fowler's snare,
Or gad'ner's tube, erect in air?

If we but pilfer plums or nuts,
The leaden ball will pierce our guts:
And then, mamma, your tender heart will bleed,
Too see your little pies lie dead.

My dears, said she, and bust'd their callow bills,
The wise by foresight intercept their ills:
And you of no dull lineage came.

To fire a gun it takes some time;
The man must load, the man must prime,
And after that take aim.

He lifts his piece, he winks his eye,
 'Twill then be time enough to fly :
 You out of reach may laugh and chatter,
 To bilk a man is no great matter.
 Aye! but—But what?—Why if the clown
 Should reach a stone to knock us down—
 Why, if he does, ye brats,
 Must he not stoop to reach the stone?
 His posture warns you to be gone :
 Birds are not kill'd like cats.
 Still, good mamma, our case is hard :
 The rogue, you know, may come prepar'd,
 A huge stone in his fist!
 Indeed, my youngsters, Madge replies;
 If you already are so wise,
 Go cater where you list."

Other verses by Lord Orford appear in the fourth volume. Why they are separated is not perfectly clear; but since they are so, we shall defer our notice of them till we come to that volume. Subjoined to the poetical compositions here inserted, are some fugitive pieces in prose. Of these, some were originally printed in a periodical paper, entitled the *Museum*: they were new to us, and afforded us just reason to admire the genuine wit and humour in which this noble author seldom was deficient; when he attempted to employ them.* The paper concerning a tax on cards has many excellent strokes of humour, and perhaps, without any jest, a small tax per pack on message cards, and visiting tickets of all kinds, would not be unproductive; most certainly would not be oppressive to the lower orders of people. Some of the topics in the pretended contents of the "History of Good-breeding, had been better omitted; but the whole is original, and very lively. Nine papers follow, which appeared in *The World*, as the Numbers 6, 8, 10, 14, 28, 103, 160, 195, and a *World Extraordinary*; and two which were written for that paper, but did not appear. The subject of these is, the question whether the loss of the Alexandrian library ought to be regretted, and on the superabundance of books. A few other pieces follow, as far as the 241st page, and the volume is closed by the Catalogue of Royal and Noble Authors. A few supplemental names conclude this Catalogue in the present edition, among which is that of Lord Chesterfield. The character of that nobleman is drawn with just and able discrimination, and, one passage excepted, is highly deserving of notice. We shall lay it before our readers, not without a remark on the passage alluded to, which to our feelings is grossly offensive.

“ PHILIP STANHOPE, EARL OF CHESTERFIELD.

“ Few men have been born with a brighter show of parts: few men have bestowed more cultivation on their natural endowments; and the world has seldom been more just in its admiration both of genuine and improved talents. A model yet more rarely beheld, was that of a prince of wits, who employed more application on forming a successor, than to perpetuate his own renown. Yet, though the peer in question not only laboured by daily precepts to educate his heir, but drew up for his use a code of institution, in which no secret of his doctrine was withheld, he was not only so unfortunate as to behold a total miscarriage of his lectures, but the system itself appeared so superficial, so trifling, and so illaudable, that mankind began to wonder what they had admired in the preceptor, and to question whether the dictator of such tinsel injunctions had really possessed those brilliant qualifications, which had so long maintained him unrivalled on the throne of wit and fashion. Still will the impartial examiner do justice, and distinguish between the legislator of that little fantastic aristocracy which calls itself *the great world*, and the intrinsic genius of a nobleman, who was an ornament to his order*, an elegant orator, an useful statesman, a perfect but no servile courtier, and an author whose writings, when separated from his impertinent institutes of education, deserve, for their delicacy of wit and Horatian irony, to be ranged with the purest classics of the courts of Augustus and Louis quatorze. His papers in *Common Sense* and the *World*, might have given jealousy to the sensitive Addison; and though they do not rival that original writer's fund of natural humour, they must be allowed to touch with consummate knowledge the affected manners of high-life. They are short scenes of genteel comedy, which, when perfect, is the most rare of all productions.”

Then follows the paragraph which gives us offence, because it contains a strong and even ill-mannered censure of Dr. Johnson; a man who for sterling force and originality of mind, was worth a host of Chesterfields. We shall not however suppress, but answer it.

“ His papers in recommendation of Johnson's Dictionary were models of that polished elegance which the pedagogue was pretending to ascertain, and which his own style was always heaving to overload with tautology, and the most barbarous confusion of tongues. The friendly patronage was returned with ungrateful rudeness by the proud pedant; and men smiled, without being surprised, at seeing a bear worry his dancing-master.”

This is a nobleman's defence of a nobleman, against a genius whom they probably had both feared; and perhaps in consequence,

* This cannot properly be said of a man so deficient in moral and religious principle. *Rev.*

hated.

hated. Johnson was not a man to be admired by either of these authors. He was too stern a moralist for the one, and too zealous a friend to religion for both of them. His manners also, confessedly, were not courtly. That Lord Chesterfield and Johnson should unite with cordiality was impossible. But had his Lordship acted with real kindness towards the great Christian Philosopher, he would have met with a gratitude, which would have done more for his fame than all his own writings together. It was most evident, that Chesterfield wished to have the credit of patronizing Johnson, without any expence, but Johnson detected and despised his meanness and dishonesty, and treated him as he deserved. As to the faults objected by Lord Orford to Johnson's style, they apply almost exclusively to his Rambler, in which, notwithstanding all that may be justly censured in that point, there is more excellent and invaluable matter, than in all the *Worlds* which the coterie of genteel wits could have spun out of their associated brains in half a century. Having thus vindicated a man, whom we would fain regard as our model and our master, we proceed with the character of Lord Chesterfield, which is undoubtedly drawn with skill.

"Even Lord Chesterfield's poetical trifles, of which a few specimens remain in some songs, and epigrams, were marked by his idolized graces, and with his acknowledged wit. His speeches courted the former, and the latter never forsook him to his latest hours. His entrance into the world was announced by his bon mots, and his closing lips dropped repartees that sparkled with his juvenile fire.

"Such native parts deserved higher application. Lord Chesterfield took no less pains to be the phoenix of fine gentlemen, than Tully did to qualify himself for shining as the first orator, magistrate, and philosopher of Rome. Both succeeded: Tully immortalized his name; Lord Chesterfield's reign lasted a little longer than that of a fashionable beauty. His son, like Cromwell's, was content to return to the plough, without authority, and without fame.

"Besides his works collected and published by Dr. Maty, his Lordship had begun "Memoirs of his own Time." How far he proceeded on such a work, I cannot say; nor whether farther than a few characters of some eminent persons, which have since been printed, and which are no shining proof that Lord Chesterfield was an excellent historic painter. From his private familiar letters one should expect much entertainment, if most of those published by Maty did not damp such hopes. Some few at the end of his correspondence with his son justly deserve admiration." P. 535.

We shall here, for the present, conclude our account of Lord Orford's Works, purposing to resume our examination of them with the first convenient opportunity.

(To be continued.)

ART.

ART. XVII. *The Cause of Truth; containing, besides a great Variety of other Matter, a Refutation of Errors in the political Works of Thomas Paine, and other Publications of a similar Kind. In a Series of Letters, of a religious, moral, and political Nature. By Robert Thomas, Minister of Abdie. 8vo. 437 pp. 3s. Dickson, &c. Edinburgh; Vernor and Hood, &c. London. 1797.*

"FRONTI nulla fides," may justly be said of this volume; not a bad sense, but a good one; not in respect of its title, but of its external appearance. Being closely printed, upon coarse paper, and sold at a low price, it contains more sound reasoning, and more useful matter, than most of those books upon which all the aids of typography are employed. The principal contents of it are, The State of Nature; Of the Rights of Men; On Equality; Of universal Suffrage, and annual Parliaments; On the present State of our Representation; Of Liberty; Objections against kingly Government obviated; Of the hereditary Succession to the Crown; Of the Necessity and Origin of Government, and of the Formation of the British Constitution; Observations on the British Constitution; Of Things that are no Arguments against the Goodness of the Constitution; Of the Superiority of the British Constitution to every other; Conclusion.

At p. 7, l. 25, 6, 7, we meet with a very fanciful passage, which rendered us, for a while, prejudiced against the book; but that prejudice was overcome by succeeding excellencies. It would be unfair to extract so short and singular a passage, as a specimen of the whole work; and therefore we shall only advise the author to expunge it from any future edition.

The writings of Paine are thus strongly characterized:

"This artful man has so blended truth and error; he has so infused the poison of asps into the salutary draught of truth, that he has blinded the understandings, and infuriated the hearts of many.

"His falsehoods, his errors, his visionary schemes have served him as an enchanter's wand; with the touch of which he introduces his reader into Fairyland; leads him in flowery paths through myrtle groves; and presents nothing to his view but harmony, peace, riches, and happiness. He conceals the pit, which lies before the traveller. He hides the demons of *Discord, War*, and all confusion and misery; which are ready to burst forth, and to change this fair and pleasing scene into a blasted heath covered with ruins and slain; over which Slavery and Misery, instead of Liberty and Equality, preside." P. 19.

P p

In

In the section which treats of *Equality*, many sound arguments are presented to us.

"In considering the equality or rather inequality of men, there is one marked distinction between man and the inferior creatures, to which we ought to attend. Among all the lower orders of creatures, every individual without art or education, and simply by the use of its natural powers, arrives instinctively at the perfection of the species. All that nature every intended the species should be, may be seen in any individual. There is a certain limit to which nature leads them, and beyond which they do not pass. But the case is very different with the human species. The son improves upon the experience of the father. He adds riches to the father's store. He joins invention to invention, herd to herd, and field to field; and thus, as knowledge, arts and riches, advance, the offspring differs from the founder of the family, till, at last, this difference becomes so great, that he who has always lived in an improved and polished society, can have no exact idea of the state of men in a rude and barbarous age. The law of nature, both with regard to individuals and societies of the human race, that they should make a progress in the acquisition of knowledge, of virtue, of riches, and of every thing which constitutes the happiness of the individual or social state. But this progress depends on a thousand circumstances, and is very different both in different individuals, and in different societies. How preposterous then! how absurd must it be! to take the original condition of man as a standard to measure what man should be in a state of very high improvement, or as a level to reduce them to equality!" P. 76.

"In Rome, the bait with which the rich demagogues fished to catch the people, was a profession of great zeal for their laws; and it should seem, that, in these times, the cry of liberty, equality, and universal suffrage, has been made use of, by some, for the same purpose. There was one mischief, which at Rome, followed the ineffectual struggles of the people for the agrarian laws, against which we ought to guard with the utmost caution. The attempt to enact and enforce these laws, joined to the privilege of voting, individually, which the people had acquired, was the remote cause of the civil wars that ruined that state. Rome was now a monstrous democracy, in which, tho' there were no legal, there were yet the greatest real, distinctions. The people were divided, and from the habit of contending, prone to faction. Ambitious men seized the opportunity, and placed themselves at the heads of the different factions; and from that time Rome became a continued scene of tumult, civil war, and slaughter, till Augustus gave it peace and slavery. And were we to attempt to establish equality, and should succeed in the extinguishing of constitutional rank, and the establishing of universal suffrage (for here, as in Rome, where it was tried for a very long period, equality could be carried no farther) what reason have we to believe that we should escape similar calamities? None at all. We are made of the same flesh and blood with the Romans; and similar effects will ever be produced by similar causes. That monstrous democracy of Rome, to which Augustus gave the finishing blow, was but lately revived in the Convention of France." P. 95.

"It is true, that, in our present constitution, the rich are allowed more power than the poor; and it is but just they should: for as a rich man has no more natural power to defend himself and maintain his rights than a poor man, and much more to lose, it is right, that he should have more authority. As the natural power of the rich is less than that of the poor, the deficiency of natural power must be made up by a greater share of that which is adventitious, in order that every man may be able, and no more than able, to maintain his rights, and enjoy security. If we mean therefore by the constitution, to preserve to every man his property, and all his other individual or absolute rights, we must allow to the rich a just constitutional power, greater than that of the poor, in addition to their natural power, in order that the effective and real power of the rich may balance that of the poor, and that neither class may be able to oppress the other. Just equality of power in such a state as ours, does not consist in each man's having as much power as another, but in the balance of power among the different parts of which it is composed. When these parts are duly balanced, every individual is safe, because the part, to which he belongs, has power to protect him." P. 131.

The next section treats of universal Suffrage and annual Parliaments.

"The great rule, according to which the right of suffrage as well as other political power and privilege, whether of a legislative or executive kind, ought to be distributed, is, that the individual or private rights of all in any political society, may be secure: and these rights, whether they consist in dignities, superior riches, or other distinctions, can never be secure, unless the power, which protects them, be in proportion to the danger, to which they are liable, of being invaded." P. 174.

In Letter xxii, it is calculated, that universal suffrage and annual parliaments, would cost the nation 21 times more than elections do at present; that is, would be a direct *additional* annual expence of at least two millions and a half. We like the author's reasonings, better than his calculations. He anticipates indeed, and answers, some objections to this calculation; but we apprehend the principal one to be, that the right of suffrage would, in that case, be slighted and neglected; it would not be exercised by one man, perhaps, in 50. throughout the nation; and a few ambitious and unprincipled demagogues would carry all before them.

"It has been asked, 'what right has any set of men to tax me without my consent?' It may be answered, that if many were never to be taxed but with their own consent, they would scarcely be taxed at any time, and never as they ought. The right to tax by some persons or other, is founded in the right, which government has to support. The right of men of property, and those only, to tax us, is founded in this, that the country could not be so equitably taxed in any other way; and, for the same reason, the elections of such men ought to have

certain property, or a certain interest in the country. Were it otherwise, the poor might strip the rich of their wealth, and reduce them to their own level, simply by the power of taxation." P. 198.

In Letter xxvi, many judicious observations are made concerning "the present State of our Representation." Among which is this :

"As the members of the House of Commons are the representatives of all places in the kingdom, and as the business which they manage is, in a greater, or less degree, the business of every subject, their constituents have no right or claim whatever to enjoin them to vote in any certain way rather than another; neither is it their duty to vote according to the sense of their constituents, unless that sense coincide with their own. They are, indeed, bound to hear their constituents; nay, it is their duty, I should presume, in ordinary cases, to take all proper steps to know their minds, as well as to inform themselves with regard to all particular business, which comes before them; but when they have learned what is the minds of their constituents, and collected all proper information on any subject to be considered by them, it is then as much their duty to vote without any partial respect to constituents, but simply according to their own judgment and the dictates of their own consciences." P. 213,

We apprehend, that this question may be placed in a yet stronger light; and we shall endeavour so to place it, believing, that the doctrine of an *implicit* obedience of members to the *instructions* of their constituents, is one of the most dangerous and unconstitutional doctrines that was ever maintained by an Englishman. Persons of various descriptions have the privilege of *electing* the House of Commons (and we hope they will long retain it, with few or no alterations; because we think it would fall, by any great change, any change upon *principle* and *system*, into hands much less safe than those which at present hold it). But here the privilege *ends*. The member of parliament does not *represent*, he is not the proxy of, his constituents (or electors) only; he is a part of the body of *representatives of the Commons of Great Britain*. When, therefore, even the majority (*which seldom happens*) of the electors of any district or place, instruct *their members* (as it is vulgarly said) what is the weight of authority constitutionally belonging to those instructions? We answer, the weight of *a few atoms*, and no more. For this weight is exactly in proportion to the number of the instructors, compared with the whole number of the people of Great Britain, *electors* and *non-electors*; whose judgments on public affairs are entitled to *precisely the same*, that is, to a *very high degree* of respect and attention from the representatives, or proxies, of *both of them* in parliament. And accordingly, the right of *petitioning* the King, or either House of Parliament, belongs equally to *every individual*.

"But

"But as the history of the country shews us, that the tendency of the constitution is to preserve and improve itself, so that, as well as the experience of individuals at the present time, proves its tendency to preserve and improve what is eligible in the condition of the subject. The state of the subject has fluctuated much in the course of several centuries; and so does the state of every individual's health, fortune, reputation and happiness; nothing is unchangeably stable, but the author of the universe; but notwithstanding of those fluctuations from better to worse and *vice versa*, what is eligible in the condition of the people of this country, has not only been generally preserved, but, upon the whole, much augmented. Their wealth and liberty have been encreased; their character in general perhaps improved; and the whole of their condition bettered, and rendered more secure. All this is known to those who, to the least acquaintance with the history of the country, join that of a few years experience. And thus we perceive the justness of the distribution of power in the constitution, from the tendency of the latter to preserve and improve both itself and whatever is eligible in the condition of the subject." P. 355.

Though it is not likely that *poor* persons will go through, or even see such a book as this, yet their *real friends*, who abound in this more than in any other country, will read with pleasure such a passage as the following.

"The king of this country is, by the constitution, and, whilst that remains what it is, ever must be, *a father to the poor*.

"Whatever advantages therefore any ambitious, popular, and powerful individual may vainly propose to himself by a change of government, let the poor especially adhere to their King; let them cling to him as the only plank that will save them from perishing in that storm which, in case of a change to republic, would be immediately raised by the ambitious struggling with each other for power. Let them look attentively first, on France and then on Britain, and they will perceive the truth of Solomon's words, that *for the transgression of a land, many are the princes thereof; but that by a man of understanding and knowledge* (and such ever must be the King of this country, aided and strengthened by the wisdom and power, in some measure of the whole nation) *the state, that is, the tranquillity and happiness, thereof shall be prolonged*." P. 363.

"In this country taxes must be great, because the wise, just, and beneficent purposes of government, which they answer, are many. But, though great, I must take the liberty of affirming, that they are not heavy, that is, a sensible burden. This affirmation may not be a very popular one; but it is founded on the most obvious facts. It is not a conclusion drawn from reasoning concerning the comparative value of money and the means of subsistence at any number of periods, concerning the increase or diminution of national wealth; and the improvement of our commerce, agriculture, and the various arts, things, with regard to which we may very easily err; but from that, in which no man can be deceived, I mean a comparison of the present state of the people of all ranks with their state in all past times. Ascend to the source of our history, and you find the people of this country
troops

troops of naked savages, conducted by their respective leaders, without any houses but huts, without arts, and without any means of subsistence, except the spontaneous growth of the earth, and the produce of their flocks and herds: Descend afterwards to the time of the conquest, and you find them emerged indeed from the savage state, but still in the barbarous, little acquainted with agriculture and the mechanic arts, destitute frequently of the necessaries, and always of the conveniencies, comforts, and ornaments of life. Descend even to the reign of Henry the Seventh, and you find an Earl of Northumberland, living amidst a numerous retinue, indeed, but in a stile of coarse barbarous plenty, or rather penury, of which the very tenants of such a man would now be ashamed. Compare the condition of all ranks at the present time, with what it was in general fifty, forty, or, in most places perhaps, even twenty years ago, and you find the greatest difference in favour of the present times. The cottager now lives like the farmer formerly; the farmer like the landed gentleman; the gentleman like the nobleman; the nobleman like a prince or king. Towns have risen in marshes and wastes, where once scarce a living creature could subsist; and thousands of wealthy merchants and tradesmen may be seen, where a beggar, in former times, when taxes were little or nothing, could not have lodged. Our country, from being one dreary waste, has assumed a beauty and richness which are unrivalled by any place of equal extent, on the surface of the whole globe. In fine, though our taxes have necessarily encreased, all ranks are infinitely better fed, clothed, and lodged, than when they paid few or none, a plain and incontestable proof, that, though great, they are not heavy." P. 397.

Of the author's *candour*, the following passage is a proof, and he certainly carries it farther than many persons will be able to go with him.

"If a party in the nation, loyal, I am fully persuaded, to a man, and ready, in case of any great emergency, to give the most decided proof of their loyalty, ready, if necessity should require it, to shed their blood in torrents, in defence of that country, which they may have, perhaps, in some degree, injured, through the heat of contention, and by the enthusiasm of their eloquence, if this loyal party have not been able effectually to thwart a minister, wise and steady beyond his years, in a remarkable degree, this is not an argument against the Goodness of the Constitution, but a proof, that the Minority in Parliament is not yet the Majority." P. 407.

We shall conclude our extracts by one short sentence, which expresses the just result of all the proceeding arguments.

"If a man wish to live under a government, where, at the least expence, all things taken into the consideration, he may calmly, or without fear of injury, enjoy himself and his all; where he may use all means, not injurious to others, to improve his character and condition, to promote his present happiness, and to qualify himself (so far as is in his power) for a happiness that is future and eternal, he will, if he sees as he ought, give, without one moment's hesitation, the government of this country a decided and constant preference to every other." P. 417.

BRITISH CATALOGUE.

POETRY.

- ART. 18.** *Poems, by the Rev. Gerald Fitz-gerald, D.D. S. P. T. C. D. and Professor of Hebrew in the University of Dublin. Now first collected in one Volume. Revised and corrected by the Author. Crown 8vo. 3s. 6d. Dublin printed; sold by Faulder, &c. London. 1797.*

The poems here collected are only four in number, all of which, if we mistake not, have been published before. "The Academic Sportsman," which is the first, we have in Pearch's collection of Poetry, vol. iii. The others have been printed separately, as that also was, but all have been long out of print in their original form. The first poem is a good deal altered from the copy printed by Pearch, and frequently improved, but not always. Take these four lines;

The sport begun, and brightning to our view,
We charge, prepar'd its pleasures to pursue;
Lest at our side the gay transparent gleam
Of frozen lake that skirts the purling stream.

In our opinion they are inferior to the passage as it stands in Pearch: the second line is particularly flat and prosaic, compared with,

The sport begun, and panting still for breath,
With arms recruited for the work of death,
Pleas'd we behold the gay, transparent gleam, &c.

"With arms recruited," &c. is a splendid periphrasis of re-loading, which is much less happily expressed by *we charge*. *The Injured Islanders* is a supposed letter from Oheroa to Captain Wallis, setting forth the mischiefs arising to her countrymen from their intercourse with Europeans. To call her *Oheroa* seems rather strange. *The Economist* is a translation, or rather imitation, of the seventh satire of Juvenal; and the concluding Ode was addressed to the Irish volunteers, in 1780. The poetry of Dr. Fitzgerald will not place him near the top of the rubric-post, yet it has many merits.

- ART. 19.** *Coombe Ellen. A Poem, written in Radnorshire, in 1798, By the Rev. W. L. Bowles, A. M. 4to. 2s. 6d. Cadell and Davies. 1798.*

Mr. Bowles has established a considerable degree of reputation for poetic talent; but we believe this is his first essay in blank verse. Cwm Elan, or Coombe Ellen, the subject of the poet's praise, is a romantic spot in Radnorshire. It is worthy, says Mr. Bowles, of the poet, painter, and practical agriculturist: certain it is, that the author's com-

composition on the subject is entitled to no common praise. It is highly animated throughout; and the two following passages are, in our opinion, not unworthy the poet's prototype, Thompson.

" Amidst the craggs, and scarce discern'd to high;
Hangs here and there a sheep, by its faint bleat
Discover'd whilst the astonish'd eye looks up;
And marks it on the precipice's brink
Pick its scant food secure: And fares it not
E'en so with you, poor orphans, ye who climb
The rugged path of life without a friend;
And over broken craggs bear hardly on,
With pale imploring looks, that seem to say,
" My mother!" She is buried, and at rest,
Laid in her grave-clothes; and the heart is still,
The only heart that, throughout all the world,
Beat anxiously for you! Oh! yet bear on;
He who sustains the bleating lamb, shall feed
And comfort you; mean time the Heaven's pure beam;
That breaks above the fable mountain's brow;
Lightning, one after one, the sunless craggs;
Awakes the blissful confidence, that here,
Or in a world where sorrow never comes;
All shall be well.

Here, then, I leave my harp, which I have touch'd
With careless hand; and here I bid farewell
To fancy's fading pictures; and farewell
The ideal spirit that abides unseen
Mid rocks, and woods, and solitudes. I hail
Rather the steps of Culture, that ascend
The precipice's side. She bids the wild
Bloom, and adorns with beauty not its own
The ridged mountain's tract; she speaks, and lo!
The yellow harvest nods upon the slope;
And, through the dark and matted moss, up shoots
The bursting clover, smiling to the sun:
These are thy offspring, Culture! the green heath
Is thine, that decks, with rich luxuriance,
The pasture's lawny range; the yellow corn,
That waves upon the upland ridge, is thine;
Thine, too, the elegant abode, that smiles
Amidst the rocky scene, and wakes the thought,
The tender thought, of all life's charities.
And senseless were my heart, could I look back
Upon the varied way my feet have trod,
Without a silent prayer, that health and joy,
And love and happiness, may long abide
In the romantic vale where ELLIZ winds."

ART. 20. *Poems*. By Joseph Faurent. To which are added, *Civilized War*, before published under the Title of the *Art of War*; with considerable Alterations; and the *Art of Poetry*, according to the latest Improvements; with Additions.

There are some very elegant and harmonious compositions in this collection; and much taste and sensibility are displayed throughout. But the author is one of those that condemn all wars, even just and defensive*. We select a specimen of his talents from the poem on infancy.

"Whence the delight, sweet Infancy,
That each fond eye derives from thee?
Each feature of thy face is fair;
But not a line of soul is there:
No sentiment those eyes display;
Nor Fancy's flame, nor Judgment's ray;
All void they roll, the blanks of mind,
Nor wit, nor wisdom, there I find;
Nor in their vacant circle lie,
Or friendship, or philanthropy;
In thy contracted bosom's space
Scarce e'en thy mother holds a place,
Yet each fond eye sweet infancy
Delights to bend its look on thee,
I blush to tell the reason why;
I blush for frail Humanity.
So oft the sense that time supplies
Proves but capacity of vice;
A power to love and to believe
Th' illusions that to wrong deceive;
A mental light, that hastily shines,
To guide the steps of dark designs;
A miner's lamp, low paths to light,
Deeds under ground, the works of night;
We turn from vice-encumber'd sense,
To smile on empty innocence."

The *Art of Poetry*, at the conclusion, by "Sir Simon Swan, Bard," has much humour, and some excellent lines.

ART. 21. *Elegy on a much-lov'd Niece; with a Hymn from the Ethiopic*, by Eschilus. 4to. 1s. Egerton. 1798.

The first of these two poems is a pathetic effusion on the death of a near relation; and is very chaste and tender, if not particularly animated. The hymn from the *Ethiopic* is entitled to no particular commendation.

* For a character of his *Art of War*, see Brit. Crit. vol. vi. p. 420.

- ART. 22. *The Wild Huntsman's Chase, From the German of Bürger, Author of Lenz. 4to. 18. Faulder. 1798.*

In some of our remote provinces, there prevails a tale of a headless stag belonging to certain woods. A similar legend prevails in Germany, which has been the subject of a popular ballad. The translation here given is very spirited and elegant. Another version has, we understand, been published, under a different title.

- ART. 23. *Passages, selected by distinguished Personages, on the great literary Trial of Fortigern and Rowena, a Comic Tragedy, whether it be or be not from the immortal Pen of Shakspeare. Vol. III. 12mo. 2s. 6d. Ridgway. 1798.*

The former parts of this work were acceptable to the public from various circumstances, of which their own intrinsic ingenuity was not the smallest; but we think they have been extended quite far enough. It must be confessed, however, that in this third portion, there is much merit, and some good poetry.

NOVELS.

- ART. 24. *The Castle of Basktholme. A Novel. In Three Volumes. 8vo. Longman. 1797.*

The history of an amiable orphan, left in a state of dependence, with no inheritance but the qualities she possessed, constitutes the subject of this novel. The style in which she finds in Basktholme Castle, the family seat of a noble relative, has furnished the title under which it appears. The incidents and characters which enter into the story and the descriptions interspersed, where occasion suggests, are natural and pleasing. The general conduct of the novel is sufficiently artful to interest; and the volumes may, we think, be read without offence to good taste, or injury to virtue.

- ART. 25. *Disobedience. A Novel. In Four Volumes. By the Author of Plain Sense. 8vo. 14s. Lane. 1797.*

The rapid succession of novels renders it difficult, if not altogether impossible, for the critic to discharge his full duties in reference to their merits. There is besides so great a sameness in the grounds of history, and the texture of plot, as adopted by the different writers, that the character given of one would, with very little alteration, suffice for the description of a class.

The clandestine birth of Mary, the heroine of this piece, and the varieties of life through which she is brought to notice, respect, and happiness, are circumstances very well imagined and connected. The concomitant and subordinate characters, are drawn with strength and justice: and we find in the family of Mr. Ellis, as much to admire, as we do in Lady Caroline, &c. to condemn. As so much of the

scenic is laid in Wales, we expected to have been entertained with some glowing descriptions of that picturesque country. But the author appears to have a leaning towards America, which disposes him to find more pleasure in extolling the wilds of *Kentucky*, than describing the Mountains of *Llannanon*.

There are many democratic traits in this piece, which highly deserve reprehension; and the disposition to decry and degrade the more elevated ranks of society, which forms part of the system of writers of a certain class, is sufficiently prominent in this novel. These very pernicious defects of course temper the commendation, which in other respects, we would gladly bestow.

ART. 26. *Laura, or the Orphan. A Novel, in Two Volumes. By Mrs. Burton, Author of the Fugitive, an Artless Tale. 8vo. 7s. Richardsons. 1797.*

An interesting and well-written tale; in which we find nothing that should hinder us from recommending it to the notice of those persons who seek for innocent relaxation in the reading of such compositions. We should indeed have liked the story better, if the object of the heroine's partial regard had displayed less giddiness and impetuosity than appear in the character of Conway Belville. That these qualities, in a young man, may be compatible with much real worth, we do not deny; but we think that, in fact, they are not usually associated with it, and that they degrade it whenever such association appears.

ART. 27. *Life and Opinions of Sebaldu Nothanker. By Nicolai, translated. Vol. III. 1798.*

We gave a sufficient account of this work of an illuminated book-seller in a former number. (*Brit. Crit.* vol. x. p. 680.) Since that article was printed, we have perceived that this third volume was only mislaid. The fable is not of consequence enough to make the reader very anxious for the winding up of the plot.

MEDICINE.

ART. 28. *Cautions to Women respecting the State of Pregnancy, the Progress of Labour and Delivery, the Confinement of Child-bed, and some Constitutional Diseases, including Directions to Midwives and Nurses. To which are added, Observations on the Mode of recovering a still-born Infant, the Management of Children in the Month, and the Diseases of early Infancy. By Sequin Henry Jackson, M. D. of the Royal College of Physicians, London, Physician to the Westminster General Dispensary, and to the Infirmary of St. George, Hanover Square. 12mo. 292 pp. 4s. Robinsons. 1798.*

That branch of medicine which treats of the diseases peculiar to the female sex, and teaches to support and preserve the tender constitution of infants, has always been regarded with particular attention. In our last number we noticed a much-esteemed work of Dr. Under-

wood; on the management of the diseases of children. The author before us, taking a wider and more extensive range, instructs women in what manner to guard against or remedy the diseases that are peculiar to the sex, how to avoid, mitigate, or remove the inconveniences and uneasinesses incident to the pregnant state, to manage themselves during and after the process of parturition, and then proceeds to give useful and salutary maxims for the management and nurture of infants. In treating these various subjects, the author will be found to be brief, yet sufficiently perspicuous to make his rules perfectly intelligible.

The work therefore seems particularly adapted to intelligent matrons, who may thence be enabled to become useful advisers to their female friends or relatives, in every situation of trouble or sickness; and to correct the conduct of nurses, or even of midwives when too forward or busy. To midwives also it may be essentially useful, by teaching them many minute points of practice, not generally attended to, but which yet may have considerable influence on the happy or unfavourable termination of labour, and by instructing them in the regimen and management most proper to restore lying-in women to a firm state of health, and to invigorate and strengthen the constitutions of their infants.

The above may serve as a general character of the work. As specimens of the manner in which it is executed, we shall give two or three short extracts from that part which treats of the management and disorders of children. On the important article of cold ablution, the author observes, p. 187, "that for the regular daily washing, only cold water should be used, with which the child should be washed all over, beginning with the head. It should be finished as expeditiously as possible. The infant should be afterwards well dried, and particularly at the bendings of all the extremities; and the whole body and limbs should be gently rubbed, until a glow of warmth appears upon the skin, by which means it will be effectually secured from suffering from the coldness of the water."—"It will always be proper," the author says, p. 164, "after washing the head, to comb, or, still better, to brush it, in order to stimulate the cutaneous circulation, and prevent obstructions in the bulbs at the roots of the hair. Infants with light hair most particularly require this attention; it will also favour the drying of the head quickly, when the hair happens to be thick." On the practice of lulling children to rest by means of a cradle, the author says, p. 214, "there is great difference of opinion on this subject. I have had sufficient opportunities of knowing, that it is best to rear an infant without one, as it much oftener prevents than promotes a child's sleeping soundly. If it is once accustomed to be put to sleep by rocking, it will wake as soon as the sensation ceases, and it will then cry and become uneasy and fretful. Whereas, if it be from the first habituated to be put to rest without it, it will go off into a sleep naturally, and the sleep will generally be longer, more perfect, and of course more refreshing. Rocking in the lap is equally objectionable with rocking in a cradle." The whole work is executed in a similarly minute and attentive manner, and as the subjects are in general of considerable importance, we doubt not it will attract the notice of the public.

DIVINITY.

DIVINITY.

ART. 29. *Ignorance productive of Atheism, Faction; and Superstition. A Sermon, preached before the University of Cambridge, on Commencement Sunday, July 1, 1798. By Thomas Rennel, D. D. Late Fellow of King's College, and Master of the Temple. Printed by the Special Desire of the Vice Chancellor and Heads of Houses. 8vo. 56 pp. 1s. Rivingtons, &c. &c.*

We have at one moment three Sermons before us, each of which well deserves to stand forward as a principal article, in a work of this nature. But as this cannot well be allowed to so many, in one number of a miscellaneous work, we prefer noticing them all together in this place, which if it will not assist, so much as the other, in pointing them out to observation, will from their merits, at least, derive unusual celebrity. For the same reason, we shall give these articles more than the usual extent.

The subject of Dr. Rennel's Sermon is, at this time, one of the most momentous that can be handled, and most particularly appropriated to the place in which it was delivered. So much has the intolerance of shallow wit succeeded in setting up a claim to superior illumination, that it is not possible too often, or too strongly, to inculcate the *primitive Truth*, that Atheism, Faction, and other modern vices, are the offspring, not of Knowledge, but of *Ignorance*. If this be fact, as fact undoubtedly it is, and as, in this discourse, is very ably established, to what human institution are we to look for the final preservation of our country from those evils, so much as to our two illustrious Universities; where genuine knowledge is expected to be taught in all its purity, and in full connection with that which Dr. Rennel rightly asserts to be the foundation of all true knowledge, *Divine Revelation*.

The text is from the prophet Hosea iv, 6. "*My people is destroyed for lack of Knowledge;*" and the knowledge, the want of which is so destructive, is justly pronounced to be that of "God, his nature, his providence, and his power;" which, without his own communication, could not possibly be acquired. The preacher, after duly stating his subject, begins by denying that superior light and wisdom are, by any means, the characters of the present age. "In compass and command of language, in simplicity and energy of diction, in orderly and comprehensive thought, in profoundness of learning; and in the detail of accurate and patient investigation," he cannot, he says, help thinking, that we should be very unwise in contesting the superiority with our ancestors. He then remarks, as an eminent token of their wisdom, that, in all branches of learning, they stedfastly kept in view "the great source of every good and every perfect gift, in whom, by whom, through whom, and for whom, are all things." A noble appeal, on this ground, follows in favour of those great men HOOKER, BACON, and CLARENDON, whose wisdom the author properly contends, was not degraded but exalted by the constant reference of their reasonings to divine truth, "in all the magnanimous humility of Christian abase-

abasement!" a most happy expression, which deserves unbounded commendation. Opposed to this he places *Pride* and its abortion *Vanity*, the idols of modern times, which, as he says, engender PARADOX, the greatest obstruction to all knowledge, particularly divine. What he says of Paradox is too useful not to be inserted.

"All PARADOX, even in its most ingenious form, is mere debility, and in no instance a mark of energy or strength of mind. And it is observable that in proportion to the love for this, the intellectual appetite is palled and vitiated for the perception and investigation of genuine truth. Hence those mischievous abstractions, which when introduced into Religion, Morals and Politics, have from causes comparatively mean, produced the most extended and tremendous effects. It is a truth, to which I believe very few exceptions occur, that paradoxes are but the panders and satellites to the passions. Rarely indeed do we find a paradox which is friendly to virtue or moral obligation. They all, by different modes, tend to inflame this principle, which expelled our first parents from Paradise "*ye shall be as Gods.*" They tend to disincline man to what an eminent Theologian called, with a pregnancy of wisdom and piety, "*a creature state.*" From this source a certain strange compound of fierceness and petulance is generated: Modesty, and the offspring of Modesty, patient industry, is annihilated." P. 15.

The absurd doctrines which have lately inflamed Europe, would, Dr. S. says, have sunk before the lustre of divine truth, had it been consulted.

"When man admit or embrace the doctrines of the *Sovereignty of the People*, of the *Duty of Insurrection*, the *Natural Equality of Man*, his *inprescriptible and unalienable Right to be his own Legislator*, it is not that their understanding is deceived, but their passions inflamed. These shallow sophisms are in so degree beloved by those who disseminate them, whose meaning is to found upon them the severest and most relentless tyranny under which the human race ever yet groaned." P. 20.

What he afterwards says on the power given to iniquity by Popish superstition, and the destructive mode, long prevalent in France, of considering religion merely as a state engine, deserves to be printed in letters of gold. In a word, our only regret is, that we cannot insert at least half this discourse; which we could extract with pleasure.

ART. 30. *A Sermon, preached before the University [of Oxford] at St. Mary's, on Tuesday, May 29th, 1798, being the Anniversary of the Restoration of King Charles II. By Charles Sarukini, M. A. Student of Christ Church, and one of his Majesty's Preachers at Whitehall.* 4to, 41 pp. 1s. 6d. Oxford, printed; and sold by Rivingtons.

The peculiar merit of this discourse, besides pure and manly language, and a spirit of heart-felt piety very far from common, arises from an exact and intimate knowledge of those unhappy times of civil war in this country; the reference to which has never yet been sufficiently made, for illustrating the present events in Europe; which, except in the exchange of impiety for fanaticism, and the introduction of

of much more cruelty and inhumanity, do not greatly differ from the transactions of those days. After speaking of the strong supports and benefits of piety, Mr. Sawkins thus sets before his hearers, in order to animate their courage, the example of their ancestors.

"Considerations similar to these sustained the spirits and confirmed the hopes of those excellent persons in the ages that are past; whose fortitude in suffering is the just object of our admiration. Our own nation and our own Church have had their seasons of affliction. The calamities, which our fore-fathers experienced in the last century, were sufficient to have shaken the courage of the most prepared mind, if it had not been supported by faith. They saw the murder of the King and the degradation of the Nobles—they saw themselves compelled to give up their liberties to the leader of an army, which had been raised under the pretence of defending them against the encroachments of their lawful Sovereign—they saw the ancient constitution overthrown, and new forms of government prescribed and again abrogated by the Usurper, with haughtiness and with marked expressions of contempt—they were informed by him, when, in violation of express capitulations and declarations of indemnity, he had plundered them of the tenth part of them all, which their faithful adherence to the King had left them; they were informed by him, that they were not to expect to be prosecuted, like other men, by the ordinary forms of justice, and that in the case of conspiracies against him men might justly be suspected and proceeded against, *not only for their common discourses, and for the company they usually kept, but for their very looks*—yet they heard him boast of the blessings of his government, and of the protection and quiet which the people enjoyed under it. And with respect to that church, which they had been accustomed to love and venerate, they saw its ancient government set aside with contumely—they saw at length the very exercise of their functions forbidden to its ministers under heavy penalties, and (what seemed intended to cut off almost the last means of their support) even the entertainment of them in families forbidden, either as religious instructors or as educators of youth;—they heard the exultations on the one hand of the Sectaries, on the other of the Romanists;—they saw the divisions among the Sectaries themselves, and their fierceness against one another continually increasing;—and they heard, under the pretence of the suggestions of God's Holy Spirit, doctrines directly contrary to truth and to soberness. These things they saw and heard—yet they ceased not to put their trust in God, and to wait for the restoration in his own good time of the blessings, which he had taken from them. "Our troubles," says one of them, "seem only to be meant for a temporary chastisement of our sins." They knew that adversity was no just plea for dependance or for indolence." P. 11.

The value of this excellent discourse is further enhanced by long and useful notes, extracted from the History of our Civil Wars,

• Exactly what Robespierre did, and others, in France.

A. R.

ART. 31. *A Sermon, preached August 13. 1798, before the Reading and Henley Association, the Windy Cavalry, and the Reading Volunteers, at the Consecration of the Colours of the Reading Association. By Richard Valpy, D.D. F.A.S. Chaplain to the Association. 8vo. 36 pp. 1s. 6d. Elmsly. 1798.*

Dr. Valpy, in this important discourse, calls in the aid of the prophetic scriptures, to impress upon his hearers a just sense of the extraordinary events of the present times. It is very remarkable, that he agrees almost exactly with Mr. King, (*On the Signs of the Times*) in fixing the year 538 as the era of the papal power: consequently bringing the destruction of that power to the present year, by adding the prophetic period of 1260 years. It appears also, that this similarity of conclusion arose from independent enquiries. It was particularly pleasing to us to find, that he also coincides with ourselves, in a glorious idea, which we had committed to paper before we had read his discourse. This is, that possibly it may be the appointed office of this country to extend and establish the true faith throughout the world. (See our Article on the *British Navy Triumphant*, in this number.) The following is the passage in which Dr. Valpy declares this sentiment.

“ Since then, in spite of the present efforts to abolish Religion, Christianity must be extended over all the earth, it follows next to inquire, if we may attempt to withdraw the veil, and search the deep and secret things of God, what nation is to be the glorious instrument of salvation of mankind? *Do not your hearts burn within you, my fellow-citizens, at the hope that You are that holy people unto the Lord your God; that the Lord hath chosen You to be a special people unto himself, above all people, that are on the face of the earth.* The former mercies of God showered on this favored country may animate us with an humble hope that *the Lord hath chosen England for himself, and the British Isles for his own possession.* In the darkest ages of our history, religious principles were zealously cultivated by the Britons, and propagated to the neighbouring parts of the continent: and the Gospel appears to have been embraced in this country during the Apostolic age. One of the earliest, and most strenuous opposers of the Roman Church was an Englishman: and had not our ancestors been endued with power from on high, to become the bulwark of the Reformation, superstition would have continued to hold the nations in the heaviest chain of her oppression, until they had, by a supernatural effort, at the appointed time *broken their bands asunder, and swept the haughty Babylon with the besom of destruction.* And even now, when the citadel of Christianity itself is attacked on all sides by the arms of infidelity, let us trust that we shall be left *to stand in the breach, to raise up its ruins, and to build it as in the days of old,—that the power, the glory, and mightiness of the kingdom of Christ may be known unto all men.*” P. 18.

Here, then, we shall close our remarks on the last of three discourses, such as cannot often be expected even from the most diligent, zealous, and able ministers.

ART. 32. *Naval Sermons, preached on board his Majesty's Ship the Impetuous, in the Western Squadron, during its Services off Brest; to which is added, a Thanksgiving Sermon for Naval Victories, preached at Park-street Chapel, Grosvenor-square, Dec. 19, 1797; By James Stanier Clarke, F.R.S. Domestic Chaplain to the Prince of Wales, Vicar of Preston, in the County of Suffex, and Morning Preacher at Park-street Chapel.* 8vo. 3s. 6d. Payne. 1798.

We have been much pleased with these discourses, and in particular with the last. They breathe a truly British spirit; and are expressed in plain, simple, but impressive language. It is a very important circumstance, that many of our most distinguished sea officers are eminent for their piety and attention to religious duty. Such piety and such duty are likely to be supported and extended by exhortations like these of Mr. Clarke.

ART. 33. *A Charge delivered to the Clergy of the Archdeaconry of Leicester. By A. Burnaby, D. D. Archdeacon of Leicester.* 8vo. 1s. 6d. Payne, 1797.

This is a sensible and pertinent discourse, in which the objects of the Archdeacon's visitation are distinctly enumerated and dispassionately enforced.

ART. 34. *The Gunpowder Treason; a Sermon, comprehending a concise Account of Events which distinguish the 5th of November; with suitable Remarks. Preached before a Country Congregation, by a County Curate, (Worcestershire.)* 8vo. 1s. Robinsons. 1798.

A plain discourse, suited to the occasion, and creditable to the zeal and talents of the preacher.

ART. 35. *A Charge, delivered to the Clergy of the Archdeaconry of Northumberland, in April, 1798, and published at their Request. By Robert Thorp, D. D. Archdeacon of Northumberland.* 8vo. 41 pp. Akenheads, Newcastle upon Tyne; Robinsons, &c. London. 1798.

ART. 36. *On Establishments in Religion, and Religious Liberty. A Sermon, preached before the University of Cambridge, on Sunday, July 1, 1792, being the Commencement-Sunday. By Robert Thorp, D. D. Second Edition. Same Editors.* 1790.

These two discourses are united in one publication. The purpose of the *Charge* is, to estimate the characters, and expose the views of modern infidels, p. iii. It begins thus. "The progress of infidelity in an age of learning and science, in an age every way qualified to examine into the evidences of Christianity, and to establish the profession of it in purity and truth, is a fact, which, however extraordinary, cannot be controverted." This fact is, we think, sufficiently accounted for, at p. 9. "Infidelity and scepticism are the proper effects of superficial knowledge, and of that vanity, and love of singularity,

larity, which so often attend it: they spring not from learning, but rather from the infirmities of those who pretend to it."

Indeed, if ever there was a time when learning, prudence, and exemplary conduct, were more than usually requisite in Christian ministers, *this* is the time; and, in proportion, there ought to be, and we trust actually are, vigilance and strictness in those ecclesiastical superiors, by whom persons are admitted into the ministry, or superintended and admonished afterwards. The Archdeacon of Northumberland, following the example of his Diocesan, has laudably executed his duty by this seasonable and judicious Charge.

The Sermon (on Gal. v. i.) proposes "to obviate the misrepresentations of the enemies of religious establishments," p. 3. In order to which, after a brief notice of the particular occasion of the text, the preacher "considers the nature of religious liberty in general, and points out the manifest distinction between those principles on which the reformers of our religion vindicated the rights of private judgment from the undue usurpation of human authority, and that flagrant abuse and misapplication of those principles, by which others, under the insinuating pretence of asserting their Christian liberty, maintain doctrines subversive of all establishments, of all order in religion, and, in the end, of those rights of liberty, which they profess to support." P. 26. The main argument is, that the establishment of the doctrines of the Holy Scriptures is the *end* proposed; and the ordinances prescribed, only the *means* of promoting that end; which means, a *society*, as such, is competent to determine and provide; by taking cognizance of *outward* actions only, but (as indeed it must do) leaving religion free, as far as concerns *internal* acts of the mind, which are purely personal, and relate only to God and each man's self. The argument is conducted with judgment and moderation.

ART. 37. *Arguments illustrative of the Ground and Credibility of the Christian Religion.* 8vo. 48 pp. 1s. 6d. Dilly. 1798.

"These pages form the substance of a course of sermons on 'the ground and credibility of the Christian religion,' preached some years ago at the Bampton Lecture*; divested of all metaphysical and abstruse argument, and contracted within the shortest limits, in which the plainest reasonings on the subject could be comprised; with a view to render the notice of it as extensive as may be, and thereby in some degree to counteract the ill effects of those mischievous publications, which have of late been industriously circulated from the bold school of Mr. Paine, and the more insidious one of Dr. Priestley." P. xi. The design is good, and the execution of it is judicious. The concluding period is just and striking. "Supported however by such authority as Revelation really is, with such security against guile in the attestation of it, I must observe, and with earnestness I do it, that to explode its reality, to exclude its benefits, to brave its terrors, and affect to laugh its truths away, without at least a serious examination,

* By R. Shepherd, D. D. Archdeacon of Bedford, 1788.

"as inexorable as want of decency, want of candour, want of self-love, [rather *prudence*, *Rev.*] can render levity and affectation." P. 48.

ART. 38. *Meditations to Humiliation and Praise. A Sermon, preached in the Parish Church of St. Mary Woolnoth, Lombard-Street, on December 19, 1797, the Day of General Thanksgiving to Almighty God, for our late Naval Victories. By John Newton, Rector.* 8vo. 96 pp. 1s. Johnson. 1798.

A very plain and earnest address, more adapted to a Fast than a Thanksgiving-Day. We are far from questioning the piety and good intention of this writer; but we must say, that zeal for certain opinions sometimes carries him beyond the bounds of moderation. "The word *methodist* is applied to all, who preach and approve the *doctrines of the Gospel*, if they are not dissenters." P. 18. This is merely a begging of the question. It assumes, that the *methodists* (so called) do, alone, preach the doctrines of the Gospel; a position, to which we by no means assent. Again: "Candour itself cannot deny, that there are in many parishes of this kingdom, official shepherds, who have neither will nor skill, to teach or watch over their flocks." P. 18. Once more: "There are not many evangelical clergymen who have benefices." P. 19. Does Mr. Newton know all the beneficed clergy in the kingdom, or a hundredth part of them? Is this *meanness*, *humility*, and *charity*; such as we might expect in a preacher, who professes, that he "considers himself as standing upon the verge of an eternal state?" P. iii.

ART. 39. *An Outline of the Evidences of Revealed Religion. By Joseph Priestley, LL. D. F. R. S. &c.* 8vo. 30 pp. 6d. Dobson, Philadelphia. 1797.

Dr. P. proposes, in this tract, to give only the *heads* of the arguments in favour of the Jewish and Christian revelations; referring, for the discussion of them at large, to others among his publications, which he enumerates, p. viii. The statements here made, and the answers given to some common objections, are plain, perspicuous, and forcible; and the whole tract is, in almost every point, satisfactory to us.

POLITICS.

ART. 40. *The British Navy Triumphant! being Copies of the London Gazette Extraordinary: containing the Accounts of the glorious Victories obtained through the blessing of Almighty God, over the French Fleet, by Admiral Lord Howe, on the First of June, 1794; the Spanish Fleet, by Admiral Sir J. Jervis, near Cape St. Vincent, Feb. 14, 1797; the Dutch Fleet, by Admiral Duncan, near Camperdown, on the Coast of Holland, Oct. 11, 1797; and again over the French Fleet, by Rear Admiral Sir H. Nelson, near the Mouth of the Nile, Aug. 1 and 2, 1798.* 8vo. 28 pp. 1d. Oxford printed: to be had of Hatchard, and Wright, Piccadilly. 1798.

Though this is one of the most judicious publications we have ever seen, it is absolutely devoid of all authorship. It consists merely of

of the Gazette accounts of those four great victories, with a quotation from the liturgy in the front, and two from the Bible at the end; thereby giving the people at large, at once an authentic relation of their glory, and a due reference to the Almighty Author of that glory.

Here then, for what better opportunity can we take, let us make a solemn appeal to our countrymen! Let them at length see where their true glory, and the true ground of their safety is placed. Our two last victories, in particular, Lord Duncan and Lord Nelson (to their immortal honour be it ever commemorated!) have fought like Christian soldiers, and have openly ascribed their victories to the God of Hosts. Let not such examples be lost! Let us become, not only a religious nation, but open professors of our religion; not concealing it, as too many have done, as if they were ashamed of it, but rendering it exemplary. We stand forward as the defenders of the civil liberties of Europe, against an all-devouring tyranny; and a glorious office it is. But how much greater will be our praise, if we should prove also the bulwark of Christianity; if we should become, in the hands of Providence, the means of substituting the pure faith of our national church, throughout Europe, for the declining corruptions of Romanism. With this exalted hope, let us one and all be religious; in public, in private, in our families, in our hearts!—and he who has blessed our Admirals, will surely bless us all.

There is as little editorship as authorship in this small pamphlet; it is sold at a penny, but is as well printed, and contains as much, as those that are usually sold for a shilling. In this there must be pecuniary loss to some persons, but their gain will be great in a better way.

ART. 41. *The King's Speech as it might have been, and as it is.* 8vo. 8 pp. Wright, Piccadilly. 1798.

A squib of the happiest invention and execution, the nature of which is sufficiently announced by its title. We object only to one passage, which is, where His Majesty, in the speech that *might have been* (had certain counsellors been followed) is made to speak of the religion of England as a dangerous and exploded superstition. Political humiliations would have been necessary, had the Directory been allowed to dictate our terms of peace, or rather submission; but no possible necessity could have brought our excellent Sovereign to give up his religion; which therefore is not fit matter even for satirical supposition. Every thing else is admirably done; and the short Preface is one of the best and most pointed that could have been composed.

ART. 42. *An Address to the People of Great Britain.* By George Burges, B.A. 8vo. 1s. Longman. 1798.

The author says, it is an opinion very generally entertained, that under pretence of a frivolous object we began the war. This we deny; it is neither the fact, nor is such an opinion very generally entertained. To counteract this opinion, Mr. Burges, in a strain of feeble declamation, recommends Union.

ART.

- ART. 43. *Opposition Dangerous.* By Thomas Lister, B.A. 8vo. 12.
Stockdale. 1798.

This seems to be the production of a scholar and a gentleman, who does not accuse the opposition "of a positive and designed co-operation with the enemies of government; but will not flatter them, so far as to say, that they have not carelessly permitted a shade of ambiguity to fling over their political conduct, &c.

- ART. 44. *A View of the Nature and Design of Public Party, occasioned by Peter Pindar's Satire on Party, in a Sermon, delivered at Ash, the Seventh of March, 1798, with additions.* By N. Nisbett. 8vo. 12. Rivingtons. 1798.

We should hardly have imagined that the levity of Peter's satire was deserving of a solemn reprehension from the pulpit, which seems, in our opinion, like breaking a fly on a wheel. Yet we do not withhold our praise from the spirit which dictated, and the talents which produced, this seasonable expostulation.

- ART. 45. *A Letter most humbly and respectfully addressed to his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, upon the present State of Ireland.* 8vo. G. Cawthorne. 2s. 1798.

The principal object of this Letter is to present the public with a concise account of the different administrations of the Lords Lieutenants of Ireland, during the last thirty years, commencing with Marquis Townshend, and continuing in regular succession to Lord Camden. A short sketch of this kind, in the present state of public events, cannot fail to be interesting; but we think the present, in some passages, objectionable. We will ask, what is the inference that this writer wishes to be drawn from the following passage; speaking of the measures taken against the United Irishmen, drawn up in the national uniform of France within a few yards of Dublin Castle. "The military were upon this occasion called out to act, but they were called out constitutionally (why in Italics?) and had for their word of command the Proclamation of the Lord Lieutenant and the Privy Council, which was to be given by civil Magistrates, Aldermen of Dublin, who attended at the head of the military for that purpose: and thus, Sir, was the gang of traitors constitutionally dispersed, and put down without bloodshed." We likewise totally differ in our sentiments respecting the regency; nor do we hold the case of James the Second by any means applicable to the circumstances of that period. This gentleman will find many of his causes of complaint ably confuted in the next article, a letter addressed to Lord Moira, which was written long before his own.

- ART. 46. *A Letter to the Earl of Moira, in Defence of the Conduct of his Majesty's Ministers, and of the Army in Ireland.* 8vo. Stockdale. 1s. 1797.

That high sense of honour and probity, which has been thought appropriate to the character of the nobleman to whom this Letter is addressed,

addressed, can hardly leave a doubt that he was misled by some men equally inimical to himself and the country, in making his strange and pernicious assertions upon the state of Irish affairs, in this and the sister kingdom. As these statements came from a man so high in rank, and from one who was supposed to be eminently conversant in the affairs of that country, their weight appeared to many irresistible. The sheets here announced, however, show how much his Lordship was misinformed in some facts, and how much blinded by party prejudice in others. This pamphlet is entitled to great praise, and to the attentive perusal of every friend of his country.

ART. 47. *The Voice of Truth to the People of England, of all Ranks and Descriptions, on Occasion of Lord Malmesbury's Return from Lisle. Second Edition.* 8vo. 1s. 6d. Rivington. 1797.

The haughty, insolent, and imperious conduct of the French Directory towards this country, upon every overture for peace, cannot be too forcibly, or too frequently presented to Englishmen, to arouse their spirits to every possible exertion, as nothing less than an infamous and humiliating submission would be admitted by the Republic as the basis of negotiation. For these reasons, we are happy to see a second edition of the *Voice of Truth*; but we could have wished to have seen the following sentence altered; as it appears to contain an impropriety of expression, if not, strictly speaking, false grammar. "You have no other choice, but either to submit your necks to the detested, and once despised yoke of France, or else to open the armoury of your ancestors, take down the mail, which in a degenerate hour commerce, and vice, and luxury, had consigned to rust and derision; and evince to the world, that you have yet vigour to wield them."

MISCELLANIES.

ART. 48. *The Naval Gazetteer, or Seaman's Complete Guide; containing a full and accurate Account, alphabetically arranged, of the several Coasts of all the Countries and Islands in the known World; showing the Latitude, Longitude, Soundings, and Stations for Anchorage, with a particular Description of the several Bays, Capes, Channels, &c. &c. A particular Relation of the Shape and Appearance at Sea of the several Headlands, &c. &c. and whatever is of Use or Importance to the Master, Pilot, Commander, or Seaman of any Ship or Vessel. Also comprehending ample Directions for sailing into or out of the different Ports, &c. of the Four Quarters of the World, and for avoiding Dangers on the various and extended Coasts, in which more than Twelve Thousand distinct Names of Places, &c. are treated of, and explained. By the Rev. John Malham, Author of Navigation made Easy and Familiar, and other Works on naval Affairs. Illustrated with a correct Set of Charts, from the latest and best Surveys. In 2 Volumes. 8vo. About 550 pages each. 18s. Allen and Weir. 1796.*

It sometimes happens, that, from a press of temporary matter, or from a book's being accidentally mislaid, a longer time elapses between the

the publication of a work and its appearance in our Review, than we could wish. To the latter of these circumstances must be attributed the delay in the mentioning of the volumes before us; a delay which we the more regret, as they appear to possess no inconsiderable degree of merit.

A Naval Gazetteer has long been wanted. It seems indeed to be so very necessary to a commercial and warlike nation like this, that we cannot but express our wonder at its having been so long delayed. It is fortunate, however, that the execution of it has fallen to the lot of Mr. Malham, a gentleman of whom we have no personal knowledge, but who, from the accuracy of his information, and the extent of his inquiries, appears to be peculiarly well qualified for the undertaking.

The nature of the work precludes us from the necessity of making any extracts from it; but we have looked it over with some care, and can strongly recommend it as a very useful composition. The articles are extremely numerous, and the omissions few and unimportant. The *isles* of St. Marcou are laid down very accurately in the chart of the Channel, but no mention of them is made in the text: this, however, we can very easily excuse, as, when Mr. Malham wrote, the gallantry of Lieutenant Price, and his little band, had not introduced them to notice.

The two volumes are enriched by a set of charts. Mr. Malham says they are correct; to this we can bear testimony: they are also neat and ornamental. The work is preceded by an Introduction of 40 pages, which will be found very serviceable to the young geographer.

ART. 49. *Pyrology; or, the Connexion between natural and moral Philosophy: with a short Disquisition on the Origin of Christianity.* By William Oshely, M. D. Physician to the General Infirmary at Northampton, and corresponding Member of the London Medical Society. 8vo. 374 pp. Johnson. 1797.

This strange, indigested, and desultory performance, is already dead. A part of it has been very justly condemned to that fate by the author himself, and the rest is destitute of all vital principles, except Calorique, to prolong its existence for an hour. Soon after its appearance, the following advertisement was inserted in the Northampton Mercury.

“Northampton, Saturday Evening, October 21, 1797. **PYROLOGY.** The author of *Pyrology* feels himself irresistibly impelled to make known by this channel, to all those who may have seen his book, that he is now thoroughly convinced of the moral Government of God, the Immortality of the human Soul, a future state, and of the Truth of Christianity in its fullest extent. For his involuntary error he confidently hopes to be pardoned by Almighty God, through the merits of his Son Jesus Christ; but at the same time thinks it his duty, in this public manner, to solicit the pardon of his readers, for having, as much as in him lay, though he trusts ineffectually, contributed to lead them astray. He is now preparing a Postscript on the above-mentioned subjects, to be given gratis to all who possess his work.”

The

The Postscript, or Appendix, is to the same effect, but more at large. We do not wish to suspect the sincerity of the writer, yet we must say, that he there speaks of the sudden revelation of the truth to his mind, in a way too congenial to the fancies of some enthusiastic sects, to be quite satisfactory to sober Christians. As a philosopher, his grand agent is *Calorique*, which he applies in many ways, certainly not very intelligible to a reader: perhaps not even to himself. As a specimen, we give his definition of happiness. "The physical cause of happiness, or pleasure, is such an expenditure of the finer secretions, or what are commonly called the animal spirits, as shall just equal the proportion in which they are secreted. While the condition just mentioned continues to be observed, the more rapid is the expenditure, the more happiness will any individual enjoy. The expenditure of animal spirits must likewise be entire, i. e. the matter and *Calorique* which enters into their composition must be equally expended," &c. Is not this enough?

The author confesses the total want of method in his book, at p. 68, and of chap. 16 and 17, he fairly owns that they might as well be placed in any other part of the work as where they stand. We cannot but suspect a redundancy of *Calorique* in the upper regions of such a writer's frame.

ART. 50. *The British Tourist, or Traveller's Pocket Companion through England and Wales, Scotland and Ireland; comprehending the most celebrated Tours in the British Islands.* By William Mavor, L.L.D. 5 Vol. 15s. Newbery. 1798.

We recommended Dr. Mavor's compilation of *Voyages and Travels* in our last volume, p. 213. The present publication is undertaken, and executed with a similar spirit, and is entitled to the same praise. It is a convenient pocket companion to the traveller, and a very suitable and interesting present for young people. The maps are executed with great neatness.

ART. 51. *The Journal of Mr. Samuel Holmes, Serjeant-Major of the Eleventh Light Dragoons, during his Attendance as one of the Guards on Lord Macartney's Embassy to China and Tartary, in 1792-3. Printed without Addition, Abridgement, or Amendment, from the original Diary kept during that Expedition.* 8vo. 11. 1s. Bulmer. 1798.

We understand that this elegant volume has been printed for the benefit of the author, under the patronage of Sir William Young. There can be no doubt entertained of its authenticity; and it will recommend itself to the reader's attention, by the plain, honest, and simple style in which the facts that occurred are described and recorded. Much novelty cannot be expected, and of course few things will be found, which have been not already noticed, either in the elaborate work of Sir George Staunton, or by *Æneas Anderson*. It certainly is very proper to encourage such Journals by individuals, circumstanced as Mr. Holmes was, in the expedition he describes; as every addition to the general stock of information on such occasions, is useful and important.

ART. 52. *A Description of the Works of Art of Ancient and Modern Rome, particularly in Architecture, Sculpture, and Painting; to which is added, a Tour through the Cities and Towns in the Environs of that Metropolis; carefully collated by the best Authorities. By J. Salmon, Antiquarian, late of Rome. In Two Volumes, embellished with beautiful Engravings from original Designs. 8vo. Vol. 1st. 16s. Rivingtons. 1798.*

We are concerned not to be able to speak of a work of much labour and expence with praise; but the present volume promises so much, and performs so little, that we fear the author's purpose will not be attained. The engravings are not beautiful; the paper by no means adequate to the price of the book; the descriptions have nothing particular to recommend them, being greatly inferior to Mr. Lumilden's in every respect. One volume only is yet published.

ART. 53. *Selections from the most celebrated Foreign Literary Journals, and other periodical Publications. Two Volumes. 8vo. 16s. Debrett. 1798.*

The author was induced to undertake the present work, from the favourable reception which was given to the *Varieties of Literature*, published a few years since. We may truly add, that this publication is no less worthy of acceptance; indeed we think, the selection has been made with more discretion and judgment, and is not liable to the objections which were necessarily made to the former miscellany (see *Brit. Crit.* vol. vii, p. 46). Some readers may possibly be of opinion, that too large a portion of the second volume, is occupied by matter relating to Russia; but the collection altogether, is very instructive and entertaining, and will certainly be well received by the public.

ART. 54. *Voyage du Jeune Anacharsis en Grèce, dans le milieu du Quatrième Siècle avant l'Ere Chrétienne. Abrégé de l'Ouvrage original de l'Abbe Barthélemy; à l'Usage de la Jeunesse: avec la vie de l'Auteur, par M. le Duc de Nivernois. Embelli de Planches dessinées et gravées par H. Richter. 8vo. 6s. 6d. Vernor and Hood. 1798.*

We very much approve of this abridgment; and the life of Barthélemy which is prefixed, cannot fail of being acceptable to the general reader, though of less interest and importance to those for whom the book itself is intended. It is a well printed, correct, and cheap publication.

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We are glad to see a process, by which the foulest treason was developed and punished, detailed in a perspicuous, and, in all respects, unexceptionable form. The unhappy men of the name of Sheares were convicted on the clearest evidence, and suffered the death they so eminently deserved. The detail of the trial is satisfactorily given in this publication.

We have before had occasion to commend the sensibility and accomplishments of Miss Stockdale. She now appears, with renewed claims to favour and approbation. Her diligence has produced a most acceptable book for children, which we recommend without reserve. The poetry interspersed is always correct, and sometimes animated; and the address to her mother, at the beginning, does the highest honour to the writer's heart.

The original of this work is deservedly of the highest reputation; and the translation from it, in three volumes, has had a most extensive sale. The present abridgment is happily imagined, and well executed; but we think it is too dear. Books for young persons should bear a moderate price; and three shillings and six-pence would perhaps better have answered the publisher's purpose.

This society, which is hitherto much less known than it deserves, considering the admirable benevolence of its object, was formed at the close

close of 1796, in consequence of a circular letter sent to a number of friends, by Thomas Bernard, and William Wilberforce, Esqs. and the Hon. Edward James Elliot, since deceased. The plan had originated in a conversation between the Bishop of Durham and the first named gentleman. Its object is thus stated;—"every thing that concerns the happiness of the poor—every thing by which their comforts can be increased. To remove the difficulties attending parochial relief, and the discouragement of industry and oeconomy, by the mode of distributing it; to correct the abuses of workhouses: and to assist the poor in placing out their children in the world:—In this, and in the improvement of their habitations and gardens (it is observed) in assistance and information as to the use of fuel, so as to give to them more benefit from it; and in adding to and meliorating their means of subsistence, by public kitchens, and other means,—much may be done by the union of liberal and benevolent minds—much by the circulating of information, and by personal assistance and influence." P. 263.

It ought not to be omitted, that as soon as his MAJESTY was informed of the plan and object of the Society, he was graciously pleased TO DECLARE HIMSELF THE PATRON OF IT.

The Reports were first published separately in octavo; they are now collected in a cheap and convenient form in the present volume. They amount to 39 in number, besides the Appendix; and strongly mark, not only the benevolence, but the judgment and sagacity of the acting members. QUOD DEUS BENE VORTAT.

ART. 59. *Dialogues in a Library.* Cr. 8vo. 278 pp. 5s. Robinsons. 1797.

If the indolence and fickleness of the age makes it requisite to have such excellent works as Derham's *Physico*, and *Astro-theology*, and Pluche's *Nature Displayed*, cast into a new form, and compressed within a nut-shell, this author deserves great praise for having voluntarily assumed the task. Nor is the execution without merit. The style is pure and easy; and though the dialogue form, where the personages are fictitious, cannot easily, as Bishop Hurd observes, be rendered interesting, the three interlocutors here employed support their parts in a respectable manner. In a work so small, a general view of nature cannot be otherwise than very slight and superficial, but the points in general are well seized, and explained with clearness. But an author who is desirous to instruct should have been very careful in excluding vulgar errors. This, however, has not been done with entire success. For instance, "the bear not only brings forth her young, but *finding them shapeless, she fashions them with her tongue by constant licking.*" p. 161. A most notorious and long exploded error. Nor is what follows much better. "And the bitch, if her puppies are kept at a distance from the house till they are pretty large, *will disgorge for them the food she has picked up in the house, before it has had time to digest in her own stomach.*" We will not say that this is untrue; but we are

not much inclined to credit it. The obvious way for her is to carry the food in her mouth, which we believe she would do if the puppies had ceased to suck. That, however, would not soon happen under such circumstances. These things mislead, and therefore do harm instead of good. We have been told that the author of this very well intended work is a Mr. Thomson, yet not the same whose Poetical View of a Library, entitled *the Paradise of Taste*, we so justly praised in vol. x, p. 658.

ART. 60. *An Appendix to an Essay on Gardening. By George Mason, which was printed in 1795. 8vo. 20 pp. 1s. White. 1798.*

The Essay on Design in Gardening was first published anonymously in 1768. A second edition appeared in 1795, with the name of the author prefixed, and very considerable additions to the matter: and that edition was commended by us in our ninth volume, p. 207. This publication involved Mr. Mason in a dispute with Mr. Price, which has ultimately occasioned the present appendixes for there are two; one relating to the second edition of Mr. P's first volume, and the other to his second volume. There is no petulance in this little tract. Mr. Mason contends with the coolness of a combatant who has completely the upper hand of his adversary. He fairly confesses an error of his own, which he attributes to a temporary infirmity of sight; but clears himself very satisfactorily from the charge of intentional misrepresentation.

ART. 61. *Discours sur l'Article. Composé pour l'école des Messieurs Strahans à Enfeld, et lu dans une Société des Gens de Lettres. Par M. L'Abbé Levisac. 8vo. 48 pp. Dulau, No. 107, Wardour-street. De Boffe, Gerrard-street. 1797.*

M. Levisac, in an advertisement prefixed to this tract, recounts the surprising effect produced by the study of his grammar, (see Brit. Crit. vol. xi, p. 90) at the school of Messrs. Strahan. We by no means wish to detract from the merit of his grammar, which we have already very strongly recommended. But, at the same time, we cannot avoid supposing that a prodigious advantage must have been derived to the scholars, from the occasional superintendence of a man so singular in his talents for French literature as M. le Texier. That the nice distinctions of the French Article require a separate tract to develop them completely, no person conversant in that language will deny; and that the Abbé is well qualified for such a discussion, his former works have abundantly proved. On these grounds we recommend this tract, without affecting sufficient refinement in his language to criticize his minute observations on it. As far as they relate to general grammar, his remarks are extraordinarily good.

ART.

- ART. 62. *Anecdotes of the Twelve last Years of the Life of J. J. Rousseau, originally published in the Journal de Paris. By Citizen Co-rancez, one of the Editors of that Paper. Translated from the French.* 12mo. 2s. 6d. Wallis. 1798.

Some anecdotes not generally known of Rousseau, are here republished from the French papers, and will be acceptable to those who collect every thing which illustrate the life of that eminent but most pernicious character.

- ART. 63. *A Brief Account of Stratford upon Avon, with a Particular Description and Survey of the Collegiate Church, the Mausoleum of Shakspeare, containing all the Armorial Bearings and Monumental Inscriptions therein. To which is added, by way of Appendix, some Account of the Lives of the Three eminent Prelates who derive their Surnames from Stratford, the Place of their Nativity.* 12mo. 1s. 6d. Robinson. 1798.

Some curious particulars are here brought together in a small space, and in a form not the best calculated to excite curiosity. The biographical sketch at the end, is worth notice, and the writer seems qualified for higher undertakings.

- ART. 64. *A View of Ancient and Modern Dublin, with its Improvements to the Year 1796. To which is added, a Tour to Bellevue, in the County of Wicklow, the Seat of Peter La Touche, Esq. Knight of the Shire for the County of Leitrim. By John Ferrar, Author of the History of Limerick.* 8vo. 6s. 6d. No Bookseller's Name. 1796.

This is a convenient and useful book for those who shall visit Dublin, but the plates are very indifferent, and the printing and paper execrably bad.

- ART. 65. *A Plain System of Geography, connected with a Variety of Astronomical Observations, familiarly discussed between a Father and his Son. By Ewan Lloyd, Schoolmaster, illustrated with Copper-plates and Maps.* 12mo. 3s. 6d. Edinburgh. 1797.

A useful little book, but the type is too small, and the maps it may be feared not sufficiently extensive or circumstantial.

- ART. 66. *The History and Antiquities of Tequesbury.* By W. Dyde. The Second Edition, with considerable additions and corrections. 8vo. 5s. Wilkie. 1798.

This is a very entertaining specimen of topography, and is an acceptable addition to that part of English literature to which it belongs. The plates are very neatly executed, and we should be glad to see the author's plan extended to other of our provincial towns.

- ART. 67. *The Life of St. Columba, the Apostle and Patron Saint of the Ancient Scots and Picts, and joint Patron of the Irish, commonly called Colum-Kille, the Apostle of the Highlands.* By John Smith, D. D. one of the Ministers of Camptown, honorary Member of the Antiquarian and Highland Societies of Scotland. 8vo. 3s. Wright. 1798.

Some curious particulars are collected in this publication, which deserved a better dress than that in which it appears. A worse specimen of typography was never seen.

- ART. 68. *English Exercises adapted to the Grammar lately published by L. Murray, consisting of Exemplifications of the Parts of Speech, Instances of false Orthography, Violations of the Rules of Syntax, Defects in Punctuation, &c. Connection of the Rules respecting Perspicuity and Accuracy, designed for the Benefit of Private Learners as well as for the Use of Schools.* By Lindley Murray. The 3d Edition, corrected. 8vo. 3s. 6d. Darton and Harvey. 1798.

This book has been accidentally mislaid; but we willingly repeat the praise we formerly gave the author for his English Grammar. There is great judgment shown in these Exercises; and, what is no common merit, the greatest perspicuity in the adaptation of the examples to the several rules.

- ART. 69. *On the Syntax of the Latin Verb: designed for the Use of Students.* By Samuel Seyer, M. A. of Corpus Christi College, Oxford. 8vo. 339 pp. 5s. Rudhall, Bristol; Cadell and Davies, London. 1798.

The author informs us, that "what is here offered to the reader is only a small part of what was intended to be an entire grammar of the Latin language. It was selected as a specimen of the whole, because it happened to be more advanced than any other part, and because it contains

contains a portion of the Latin syntax, which, though perhaps more important than any other, yet has not been discussed in a regular and systematic way by any of the grammarians." Great as the importance of the verb is, compared with the other parts of speech, yet the magnitude of a grammar composed on this scale would be enormous. Abundant praise is certainly due to Mr. Seyer, for the vast labour bestowed upon this compilation; but we fear that many will not be found, either among masters or scholars, who will be at the pains of employing the instrument which he has prepared for their use.

FRENCH BOOKS PUBLISHED HERE.

ART. 70. *Fables choisies de l'Ami des Enfants de M. Berquin. A l'usage des Ecoles.* 12mo. 366 pp. 2s. 6d. Dulaeu, Wardour-Street, &c. 1798.

The genius of M. Berquin appears to have been so happily directed, in writing small dramas, and other compositions for children, that all Europe has applauded his labours, by translating them into various languages. This is a very cheap edition, and contains a great deal of matter.

ART. 71. *Fables de la Fontaine; avec les notes de M. Ciste, et des Notices sur les Vies de la Fontaine, d'Espe, et de Phédre.* 12mo. Two Volumes in one. Dulaeu, &c. 1798.

To English readers, and particularly to the younger sort, the peculiar wit of Fontaine in his elegant fables, must frequently want explanation. We rejoice therefore to see that such an aid is here offered, by some capable person, to enable the student to relish those very singular compositions.

ART. 72. *Lettres choisies de M^ll^{es} de Sevigné, et de Maintenon, avec une préface et des notes. Par M. L'Abbé de Brevisac.* 12mo. 381 pp. 3s. 6d. Dulaeu, Wardour-Street, &c. 1798.

We have seen abundant reason to be assured, that no man can be better qualified, than the Abbé Levifac, to recommend such compositions as deserve to be read, as French Classics. The purity and native elegance of Mad. de Sevigné's Letters, in particular, are universally acknowledged, by competent judges; and there are few readers of French who will not be glad to have a selection of them, thus rendered of easy acquisition and easy purchase.

FOREIGN CATALOGUE.

FRANCE.

ART. 73. *Voyage d'Egypte et de Nubie; par Fred. Louis Norden Danois. Nouvelle édition, avec des Notes et des additions, par L. Langlès, auteur de l'Alphabet tatar-manchou, &c. Ouvrage enrichi de 160 cartes et figures dessinées par l'auteur. 3 Vols. grand in 4to. Paris, de l'imprimerie de Pierre Didot, l'aîné.*

The *first volume* of this generally esteemed work, is divided into four parts, which treat, 1, of Old Alexandria; 2, of New Alexandria; 3, of New Cairo; and 4, of the Pyramids. To these divisions, the first 59 plates answer.

In the *second volume* is contained the *fifth part*, in which an account is given of *Norden's Voyage* on the Nile, from Cairo to Girgio, the Capital of Upper Egypt. The rest of this volume is occupied by a Dissertation of Mr. *Langlès* on the statue of Memnon, and by the remainder of the plates, from the 60th to the 113th inclusively.

We are not informed whether the *third volume* is yet completed. It is to contain the description of the author's passage from Girgio to the second Cataract of the Nile, and to be followed by about 50 plates, together with the indexes announced in the advertisement.

As the character of the original work is already sufficiently known, we shall only observe, that in this re-impression of it, while the amateurs of geography cannot fail of being pleased with the accuracy of the charts of the Nile, the learned will, in general, think themselves indebted to Mr. *L.* for having restored the true orthography of the Arabic words; for the useful illustrations with which he has enriched the narrative of *Norden*, in his numerous notes; and, more particularly, for his very ingenious Dissertation on the statue of Memnon, which we have just mentioned.

Espr. d. Jour.

ART. 74. *Oeuvres posthumes de Montesquieu, pour servir de supplément aux différentes éditions in 12 qui ont paru jusqu'à présent. Paris; prix 3 liv. 12s., et franc de port 4 liv. 15s. vol. in 12.*

Among the new manuscripts which compose this supplement, there are some in which the reader, though he may not altogether adopt his opinions, will easily recognise the vigour of sentiment, and the style of the celebrated author. Such are the *Dissertation sur la politique des Romains dans la Religion*; *l'Eloge du duc de la Force*, and some memoirs on different objects of science, read in the academy of Bordeaux.

In

In the Discourse *sur les motifs qui doivent nous encourager aux sciences*, before the author descends to the particular motives by which individuals may be supposed to be actuated, he makes some observations on their influence on the state of nations.

"La différence," says he, "qu'il y a entre les grandes nations et les peuples sauvages, c'est que celles là se sont appliquées aux arts et aux sciences, et que ceux-ci les ont absolument négligées. C'est peut-être aux connoissances qu'ils donnent, que la plupart des nations doivent leur existence. Si nous avions les mœurs des sauvages de l'Amérique, deux ou trois nations de l'Europe auroient bientôt mangé toutes les autres; et peut-être que quelque peuple conquérant de notre monde se vanteroit, comme les Iroquois, d'avoir mangé soixante-dix nations."

Of the *Pensées diverses*, some are profound and ingenious, while many are neither the one nor the other. One of the most remarkable paragraphs, at least, is that which presents the following portrait.

"Louis XIV ni pacifique, ni guerrier; il avoit les formes de la justice, de la politique, de la dévotion, et l'air d'un grand roi. Doux avec ses domestiques, libéral avec ses courtisans, avide avec ses peuples, inquiet avec ses ennemis, despotique dans sa famille, roi dans sa cour, dor dans ses conseils, enfant dans celui de conscience, dupe de tout ce qui joue les princes, les ministres, les femmes et les dévots; toujours gouvernant et toujours gouverné; malheureux dans ses choix, aimant les sots, souffrant les talents, craignant l'esprit; sérieux dans ses amours, et dans son dernier attachement foible à faire pitié: aucune force d'esprit dans les succès, de la sécurité dans les revers, du courage dans sa mort. Il aimait la gloire et la religion, et on l'empêcha toute sa vie de connoître ni l'une, ni l'autre. Il n'auroit eu presque aucun de ces défauts, s'il avoit été un peu mieux élevé, et s'il avoit eu un peu plus d'esprit. Il avoit plus d'âme que d'esprit; et madame de Maintenon abaissoit sans cesse cette âme, pour la mettre à son point."

In the picture which the author draws of himself, there are unquestionably many traits of an amiable simplicity; such as the following:

"J'ai cru trouver de l'esprit à des gens qui passoient pour n'en point avoir.

"J'aime-les maisons où je puis me tirer d'affaire avec mon esprit de tous les jours.

"Dans les conversations et à table, j'ai toujours été ravi de trouver un homme qui vouloit prendre la peine de briller: un homme de cette espèce présente toujours le flanc, et tous les autres sont sous le bouclier.

"Je n'ai jamais vu couler des larmes sans en être attendri.

"Je suis amoureux de l'amitié.

"Je n'ai jamais été tenté de faire un couplet de chanson contre qui que ce soit: j'ai fait en ma vie bien des sottises, et jamais de méchancetés.

"La timidité a été le fléau de toute ma vie: elle sembloit obscurcir jusqu'à mes organes, lier ma langue, mettre un nuage sur mes pensées, déranger mes expressions. J'étois moins sujet à ces abattemens devant des gens d'esprit que devant des sots: c'est que j'espérois qu'ils m'en trouveroient: cela me donnoit de la confiance.

"J'ai

" J'ai la maladie de faire des livres et d'en être honteux quand je les ai faits.

" Je souhaite avoir des manières simples, recevoir des services le moins que je puis, et en rendre le plus qu'il m'est possible.

" Je fais faire une assez sottise chose, c'est ma généalogie."

This Collection is terminated by an excellent *Analyse raisonnée de l'Esprit des Loix*, by the Abbé Bertolini, consisting of 112 pages, which, even in Italy, was become very scarce. *Ibid.*

GERMANY.

ART. 75. *Du gouvernement de la république Romaine*; par A. Adriaux de Texier; 3 vol. 8vo. de 300 pp. of each. Hambourg.

He most certainly possess no inconsiderable share of courage, who would venture to treat a subject of this kind after *Verrus*, *Hoake*, *Ferguson*, *Beaufort*, and *Montesquieu*. The last of these had, indeed, an excellent guide, *Polybius*, and has accordingly produced a very valuable work. That by *Mably* is only a feeble essay, though it has been reformed by the author with greater self-sufficiency than success. Mr. *Texier* had not the same views with his predecessors, and his plan differs very much from theirs. In the beginning of the work he observes, that Romulus divided the lands of his little territory among adventurers, his companions in arms and rapine, and that afterwards he had the prudence to incorporate the conquered people with them. But among successors, he who was the best qualified to take advantage of circumstances, was Servius Tullius.

" Sans renverser," says the new historian, " les bases posées par Romulus, il les étendit et leur donna plus de consistance, plus de solidité. Ce prince, qu'il faut regarder comme le premier fondateur de la république, en même temps qu'il réformoit l'administration intérieure, modifioit encore celle de l'extérieur. L'esprit du premier système de conquête avoit été très propre à donner quelque corps à un état qu'on ne pouvoit faire sortir que violemment des bornes de sa petitesse. Servius, sans renoncer au plan d'usurpation de Romulus, songea à le modifier d'une manière qui le rendit moins effrayant pour ses voisins. En sortant des bornes de l'ancien Latium, Rome eût trouvée des peuples plus puissans, plus unis entr'eux; ces diverses villes Latines s'étoient associées par un pacte fédératif; il existoit aussi des liens politiques qui unissoient les divers peuples de la Toscane. Servius, profitant de quelques victoires remportées par son prédécesseur, conclut avec les villes Latines un traité d'alliance qui, sous les apparences de l'égalité, n'en assuroit pas moins la prépondérance Romaine. Ces peuples alliés devinrent alors les bras dont Rome s'aïda pour enchaîner les différens cantons de l'Italie. Ce système de fédération remplaça le plan d'incorporation: on avoit commencé par avoir des citoyens; on vouloit ensuite avoir des alliés; on devoit finir par avoir des sujets.

" Ce plan fédératif," continues our author, " dicté par la prudence, s'adaptoit parfaitement aux institutions politiques de Tullius."

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The essence of the work of Mr. T. is contained in the first volume; he extends his ideas in the second, where he likewise endeavours to confirm them by proofs drawn from history. The fourth book is employed in giving an analysis of the sacerdotal constitution of Rome, and what he says in favour of the religious ceremonies deserves to be read. In the third volume, the author gives a succinct account of Roman legislature: he deservedly praises the small number, and the simplicity, of their first laws; but he seems to regard with too great a degree of contempt those of a later period, particularly those of *Justinian*. They were, however, adapted to the times in which they were promulged. They are, moreover, sources from which legislators, worthy of the name, may draw excellent things. It must be owned, that if the lapse of time has procured us some accession of light, it often serves only to dazzle and perplex us; we reject the good, and adopt the bad; as for instance, in the licentious system of divorce, which in France has been copied from the Roman laws, but by which, no regard is paid to decency, to public or private interest, or to the most sacred principles of morality.

Mr. T. is charged with having made too frequent allusions to the actual events of France. Alas! the heart has but too great an influence over the understanding; authors write for themselves, before they write for others, and the man of posterity is, perhaps, yet unborn. *Thucydides*, *Polybius*, *Sallust*, and *Tacitus*, the most judicious historians of antiquity, had each their respective views, which had a reference to themselves, to their nation, and to the times in which they lived.

Mr. T. describes very justly the state of literature, and of the fine arts, in ancient Rome. "L'ignorance," says he, "des premiers Romains est attestée par le vide absolu que leurs annales littéraires offrent pendant près de six siècles. Ce n'est pas au milieu des camps, ni chez un peuple féroce qu'on voit naître le goût des occupations pénibles, et le laurier que la Grèce avoit consacré à Apollon aussi bien qu'à Mars ne croissoit sur le sol Romain que pour orner le front de la Victoire. Le tableau nécrologique des hommes de lettres ou artistes que Rome put compter avant le siècle poli d'Auguste, fournit une preuve bien vigoureuse de cette assertion." Having passed in review some literary characters, from *Fabius Pictor* down to *Ovid*, he proceeds in these terms:

"La première époque où Rome commença à s'enrichir de plusieurs beaux monumens date du sac de Syracuse. Cette ville magnifique, prise après trois ans de siège, fut dépouillée de tout ce qui tenta la cupidité du vainqueur. Jusque-lors les soins des généraux s'étoient bornés à enlever au vaincu son or et ses richesses; mais, depuis un demi-siècle, une communication plus habituelle avec la Grèce faisoit naître le goût des belles superfluités. On voulut qu'une ville qui n'avoit été encore que l'*hôtel de Mars*, offrit enfin à Apollon un culte moins stérile: les monceaux d'armes, de trophées, de dépouilles sanglantes commencèrent à faire place aux chef-d'œuvres de l'art; la victoire et le pillage les y apportèrent dans une telle profusion, on les renouvelloit avec une si grande facilité, que l'administration s'occupoit
très

très peu d'en prévenir la dilapidation. Les Œuvres de Cicéron sont remplies de traits qui décèlent les excès de ce pillage public et particulier, et Tite-Live, en parlant des dépouilles précieuses dont Marcellus avoit embellî le Capitole, dit que, de son temps, le temple n'en possédoit plus la centième partie; le reste avoit déjà disparu.

“ Il y avoit loin, sans doute, d'un tel génie de destruction à celui qui avoit fait naître les arts en Grèce; et si l'Italie en attira sur son sol la culture, elle y fut encore long temps abandonnée à des mains érrangères. Ces Romains somptueux, que Salluste nous peint occupés à applanir des montagnes et à bâtir dans les mers, avoient besoin de s'entourer d'une foule d'artistes grecs qu'on enlevait à leur patrie avec les monumens de leur art. Il falloit édifier un palais pour un simple citoyen; ses maisons de campagne devoient être des villes entières; il sembloit que le conquérant, jaloux d'égalier son luxe à la grandeur de sa puissance, voulût y engloutir toutes les richesses de l'univers.”

These citations will be sufficient to show the author's manner in treating the history of this republic, which he represents as ambitious, treacherous, and sanguinary, the existence of which was, in his opinion, the greatest calamity ever experienced by mankind. *Ibid.*

ART. 76. Joh. Friedr. Zöllners *Reise durch Pommern*.—*Travels through Pomerania*, by J. F. Zöllner. Berlin, 1798. 1. 8vo. with plates.

Swedish Pomerania, with the Isle of Rügen, was the part of Germany least known, though its position, on the banks of the Baltic, render it peculiarly interesting to commerce, and to natural history. It is to be regretted, that the author's plan does not likewise take in this latter department; but he has thus been enabled to pay a proportionably greater attention to the former, including the cultivation and productions of the country, together with those manufactures which have been carried to any degree of perfection. The picture which he draws of the character and manners of the inhabitants, is rendered particularly interesting, by a variety of historical traits and anecdotes; it is, more especially, in the Isle of Rügen, that the simplicity of the manners of the first ages may be discovered. The work is accompanied with a number of engravings, representing the picturesque scenes and agreeable habitations of this country. *Jena ALZ.*

ART. 77. Ebeling's *Erdbeschreibung und Geschichte vom Amerika*.—*Geography and History of America*, by Ebeling. Hamburg.

The fourth volume of this important work has just appeared. It contains 914 pages in large 8vo. and has for its object the description and history of *Pennsylvania*. To the text is prefixed an account of the sources from which the author derived his information. *Ibid.*

ART. 78. *Amerikanisches Magazin*.—*American Magazine*.

Of this collection, which presents materials judiciously selected, there have already appeared four *cabiers*. Among several pieces rela-
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tive to the geography and political state of this part of the world, there is likewise a dissertation, of considerable length, on the progress of poetry among the Americans; together with some well-chosen extracts from their productions. *Ibid.*

ART. 79. *Norrmann's geographisch-statistische Darstellung des Schweizerlandes.—Geographico-statistical View of Switzerland, by A. P. H. Norrmann; 3 parts in 8vo. Hamburg. 1798.*

The work which we here announce, being regarded in Switzerland itself as classical, cannot certainly require any further recommendation. It is likewise intended to constitute a part of a more extensive undertaking, which the author had formed some years ago, and which was to comprize the whole of Europe. If Mr. N. continues as he has begun, the work will exhibit a complete course of political geography, which, notwithstanding the changes that may successively take place, will always be interesting. Nations may, indeed, vary the mode of government, but the face of the country, and the character of the inhabitants will still remain nearly the same. *Ibid.*

ART. 80. *Synopsis Evangeliorum Matthæi, Marci, et Lucæ, una cum iis Johannis pericopis, quæ historiam passionis et resurrectionis Jesu Christi complectantur. Textum recensuit et selectam lectionis varietatem adjecit D. Joh. Jac. Griesbach. Editio secunda, emendatior et auctior. Halle. 1797. 40 and 331 pp. and in 1. 8vo.*

The first edition of this work was published in 1774. In the present re-impression, material alterations are made in the division and numeration of the sections, now amounting to 150, which, together with some additions from the gospel of St. John, from which nothing had before been excerpted, and a selection of the most important various readings from the author's last edition of the gospels in 1796, considerably enhance its value. *ibid.*

ART. 81. *Gottfrid Auguste Bürgers sämtliche Schriften herausgegeben von Karl Reinhard. Works of G. A. Bürger, published by Reinhard. Vol. I. xx and 276 pp. with a portrait of the author and vignettes; Vol. II. 296 pp. with a frontispiece and vignettes; Vol. III. xvi and 454 pp. likewise with a frontispiece and vignettes. Göttingen.*

G. A. Bürger, who had been since the year 1783 Professor of Belles Lettres at Göttingen, was deservedly reckoned by his countrymen among their most esteemed poets. Since the year 1778, he had the direction of, and was a principal contributor to, the *Musenalmanach* of Göttingen. To this, since his death, his friend C. Reinhard has succeeded; who has published a splendid edition of his works, which, in point of typographical merit, does great honour to the printer, Mr. Dieterich. Of the three volumes which we have now before us, the

the ~~two~~ first contain different *poems* arranged in chronological order; the *third* volume, which is the first of his *miscellaneous works*, presents his translation of 1, 2, 3, 4, and 22 books of the *Iliad* in hexameter, and that of the 5 and 6 in iambic verses. The *fourth* volume will contain the rest of his miscellaneous works. *ibid.*

SWEDEN.

ART. 82. *Kongl. Vetenskaps nya Handlingar. Transactions of the Royal Academy of Sciences at Stockholm, Vol. XVII.*

Among the more interesting memoirs contained in this volume of a work, which has now supported itself for 60 years, may be reckoned, 1. An account, by Vice-Admiral *de Chapman*, of the best form of Anchors. 4. A memoir, by *Prosperinus*, on the distance of Comets from the earth. That which was the nearest us, was, however, at a distance thirteen times greater than that of the moon; and the two others, the least distant after this were twenty, and five and twenty times more distant than the moon.

ART. 83. *Det Cessande Sverige, Första Bandet, Första, Andra, och Tredje Afdelningen. Account of the present literary State of Sweden; 1, 2, and 3 parts of Vol. I. Stockholm. 1797.*

A very imperfect imitation, with respect to Sweden, of Meusel's *gelehrtes Deutschland*, which we should therefore wish to see in better hands.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A very polite letter from *Dr. Jenner* offers his defence, upon some points mentioned in our Review of his publication on the *Cow-pox*. In answer to our objection, that the source of the disease had not been sufficiently investigated by him, he alledges, "Horses with heels diseased in that peculiar way which I conceive to produce the *cow-pox*, were so rarely met with, during the progress of the experiments, as not to be within my reach," &c. &c. He must permit us to say, that this very rareness weakens, in no small degree, the probability of his conjecture: and, let us add, must it not be still more rare

fare, for even the grossest boors, in the most uncivilized country that can be imagined, to be so execrably nasty, as to go to milking a cow from dressing the greasy heels of a horse, without first washing their hands?—His plates he defends as designed to excite the attention of professional men. That attention is now completely excited, and we shall have occasion frequently to resume the subject.

Mr. *Edward Thompson* may be assured, that in our very next number we will notice the poem he recommends to us, and shall be glad to speak of it as favourably as our critical duty will by any means allow, on account of the great merit of the intention.

We can assure Mr. *J. Bradley Rlys.*, that we have not the smallest rancour in the world against him. He may observe, that when the critique, Art. 33. was written, the author was unknown. When he was guessed, afterwards, the charge was reduced to mere *fanaticism*; which must, and ought to remain. Under these circumstances, we return him his *pity*, and can be well contented without his *forgiveness*. We have already considered the doctrine, in the source to which he refers us.

We sincerely thank *Phidias* for his hint, to which we shall not fail to pay all possible attention.

In our Review for June last, p. 695, we noticed a small tract, published by Hookham, entitled "Some Account of the early Years of Buonaparte, by C. H. one of his Schoolfellows." In concluding our account, we said, "The respectable gentleman to whom it is dedicated probably knows how much credit is due to a narrative, which, as anonymous, the public cannot so well estimate." The gentleman alluded to was Mr. A. Douglas, of Portland Place, from whom we have just received a letter, accounting for his long silence by absence from home; but asserting, in the strongest manner, that the narrative is worthy of credit, and the narrator well known to him, as a man of honour, and good principles.

We have received a very loyal and patriotic song, addressed to *Lady Nelson*, by the *Rev. Ch. Ed. Stewart*. Such a composition is not amenable to a court of criticism; but we heartily commend the spirit by which it was dictated.

Dr. Poulter has favoured us with a letter, in which he explains that his design is not to publish "*a History of Hampshire*," as we had been informed, but "*an annual volume of original provincial materials, containing rather the current modern account, than the ancient History of the County.*"

LITERARY INTELLIGENCE.

Ruhnkenius, the eminent German critic, lately deceased, has left many important papers to the care of Professor Wyttenbach. We understand they have been offered to the University of Oxford, for a certain sum.

Mr. Cox, whose pen seems to be indefatigable, has made some collections preparatory for a History of *Monmouthshire*.

Mr. Croker of the Custom-House, is about to publish Letters on *Spain and Portugal*.

Mr. D. Lysons has a volume, which will not, we trust, conclude his labours of the kind, almost ready for publication, on the *County of Middlesex* only.

Mr. King, the learned Antiquary, is printing an *Examination of Mounds and Tumuli*.

Mr. Milner, of Salisbury, has prepared a Dissertation on the alterations proposed to be made in that venerable cathedral.

Mr. Maurice is delivering to his subscribers, and will speedily publish the first part of his second volume of the *History of Hindostan*. The work will certainly be completed in March; and, in the mean time, the subscription at Messrs. Walwyn's and Co. 150, Bond-Street, will continue open.

The lovers of natural history will necessarily be gratified at being informed, that a *Universal Natural History* is preparing for the press, by Dr. Shaw of the British Museum. It will be published in an octavo form, and may probably extend to twelve volumes.

Mr. Joan Scipion Vernede, of Amsterdam, for whose character we entertain great respect, proposes to publish, by subscription, two volumes of *Sermons*. M. Vernede is Pastor of the Walloon Church, at Amsterdam.

Mr. Drummond will soon publish a second edition of his *Persus*, with considerable additions to his notes.

The public may also soon expect the *Trigonometrical Surveys* of General Roy, and Messrs. Mudge and Dalby.

Dr. Herschell has a very important work in some progress; a detection of the Errata in Flamsteed's *Historia Cælestis*.

A very curious volume of *Letters*, intercepted partly by us, and partly by the Turks, between Buonaparte and his officers, and their friends in France, may soon be expected.

A second volume of the *Reports of the Society for bettering the Condition, and increasing the Comforts of the Poor*, an undertaking in the highest degree honourable to its promoters, will soon be produced.

THE
BRITISH CRITIC,

For DECEMBER, 1798.

Inane abscindere foldo. HOR.
Prompt to divide the empty from the sound.

ART. I. *The Gardener's and Botanist's Dictionary; containing the best and newest Methods of cultivating and improving the Kitchen, Fruit, and Flower Garden, and Nursery; of performing the practical Parts of Agriculture; of managing Vineyards, and of propagating all Sorts of Timber-Trees. By the late Philip Miller, F. R. S. Gardener to the Worshipful Company of Apothecaries, at their Botanic Garden at Chelsea, and Member of the Botanic Academy at Florence. To which are now first added, a complete Enumeration and Description of all Plants hitherto known, with their generic and specific Characters, Places of Growth, Times of Flowering, and Uses both medicinal and economical. The Whole corrected, and newly arranged, with the Addition of all the modern Improvements in Landscape-Gardening, and in the Culture of Trees, Plants, and Fruits, particularly in the various Kinds of Hot-Houses and Forcing-Frames: with Plates explanatory, both of them, and the Principles of Botany. By Thomas Martyn, B. D. F. R. S. Regius Professor of Botany in the University of Cambridge. In Two Volumes. Vol. I. Folio. 370 Sheets. 4l. 16s. Rivingtons, Law, Johnson, &c. 1797.*

THE Dictionary of the celebrated Philip Miller, so honourably mentioned by Haller, Linnæus, and other contemporary botanists, is so well known and so justly esteemed, as

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to make any particular description or character perfectly unnecessary to most of our readers. It has passed through several editions, and has been looked up to as the great or standard work relative to gardening and practical botany.

"Mr. Philip Miller," says Dr. Pultney, in his elegant *Historical View of the Rise and Progress of Botany in England*, "was born about the year 1691. His father was Gardener to the Company of Apothecaries at Chelsea, and the son succeeded to that office in the year 1722. He raised himself to a degree of eminence rarely if ever before equalled in the character of a gardener. The name of Botanist has been sometimes applied to any one who can recite by memory the names of plants; but Mr. Miller rose far above this attainment. He added to the theory of the knowledge and practice of gardening that of the structure and characters of plants, and was early and practically versed in the methods of Ray and Tournefort; but these were at length superseded by the superior accuracy of the Linnæan system. To the superior art of Miller the public owe the culture and preservation of numerous beautiful plants, which in less skilful hands would have failed, at that time, to adorn the conservatories of England. He maintained a correspondence with the most celebrated botanists of his time, and amongst others with Linnæus, who said of his Dictionary, "*non erit Lexicon Hortulanorum sed Botanicorum.*" By foreigners he was emphatically styled *Hortulanorum Princeps*. He was admitted a Member of the Botanical Academy of Florence, and of the Royal Society of London. His decease took place in the year 1771, in the 80th year of his age. In the year 1731, he published the *Gardener's Dictionary*. It was translated into various languages, and the reception it met with is a sufficient proof of its superiority."

But the vast and rapid progress of modern botany, has rendered even the last editions of Mr. Miller's work extremely incomplete; and an enlarged edition became absolutely necessary for all who might wish for full and scientific information relative to the new discoveries in this science, delivered in their own language, and accompanied by every particular relative to the culture and propagation of plants. The improvements also in the structure and management of conservatories, with numerous other particulars, which can be expected only in a work professedly popular, and designed for general instruction, afforded an additional motive for the publication of this highly enlarged and extensive edition; which includes a complete and accurate translation of the *Genera Plantarum* of Linnæus, according to the latest and most improved editions; the exact

enumeration of the several species belonging to each genus, with their respective specific characters translated, in a similar manner, and accompanied by their various synonyms, as well as by the particular history or account of each individual species, with its medical, æconomical, and other qualities.

An undertaking so vast demanded of course not only the most sedulous attention, but likewise a scrupulous examination of all writers who have contributed towards the history of the vegetable kingdom. It must therefore be considered as a peculiarly fortunate circumstance for this publication, that it is conducted by so able and masterly a hand as that of the learned Professor whose name is announced in the title-page, and to whom the public is already so much indebted for information on similar subjects. The work is meant to be comprised in two large folios; and, for general convenience, it is published in Fasciculi, of which 8, constituting the first volume, have already made their appearance, and the remainder has advanced to a considerable distance beyond what is now specified.

It remains to give a specimen of the mode of execution. For this purpose we have selected examples of genera which contain but few species; the vast number of synonyms, &c. &c. accompanying the larger or more numerous genera making it impossible in the pages of our publication to allot the space necessary for copying the work as it stands. One of these genera is distinguished by its importance, and the other by its beauty; and, from the descriptions of both, our readers may form some idea of the laborious task in which the learned Professor has engaged, as well as the scientific manner in which he has conducted the work. The former is however so long, that, after all, we must content ourselves with selecting only a part of the description. The latter article we shall give entire. The subject of the first is that much-admired and excellent fruit the Pine-Apple.

" *BROMELIA* (In memory of Olaus Bromel, a Swede, author of *Lu-pologia*. Stockh. 1687. 12°. and *Chloris Gothica* 1694. 8vo.)

Lin. gen n. 395. *Reich.* 427. *Schreb.* 540. *Juss.* 50. *Plum.* 8. *Pinguin.* *Dill. elib.* 240. *Ananas.* *Tournef.* 426. 427. 427. *Mill. Dict. Gardin.* t. ii. *Karstas.* *Plum.* 33. *Mill. dict.*

Class. 6. 1. Hexandria Monogynia.

Nat. order of *Coronariae*. *Bromelia* Juss.

" GENERIC CHARACTER.

CAL. Perianth three-cornered, small, superior, permanent; divisions three, ovate.

COR. Petals three, narrow, lanceolate, erect, longer than the calyx. Nectary fastened to each petal above the base, converging.

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STAM.

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STAM. *Filaments* fix, subulate, shorter than the corolla, inserted into the receptacle. *Anthers* erect, sagittate.

PIST. *Germ* inferior. *Style* simple, filiform, the length of the *filaments*. *Stigma* obtuse, trifid.

PER. *Berry* roundish, umbilicate, one or three-celled.

SEEDS numerous, incumbent, somewhat oblong, obtuse.

" ESSENTIAL CHARACTER.

Cal. trifid, superior. *Pet.* three, and a nectaceous scale at the base of each. *Berry* three-celled.

" SPECIES.

1. *Bromelia Ananas. Ananas* or *Pine-apple.*

Lin. spec. 408. *Reich.* 2. 6. *hort. cliff.* 127. *ups.* 73. *Lam. cochinch.* 192. *Raii hist.* 1332. 1. *Ger. emac.* 1550. 1552. n. 15. *Park.* 1626. *Mor. hist.* 3. 169. f. 7. t. 37. f. 1. *last row.*"

Of this species are enumerated six varieties; with the authorities cited in the same manner. Then follow eight other species; of which, Sp. 3. 6. 7. 8. and 9. have been added by the present editor. The descriptions, &c. next succeed; of which, as we cannot take the whole, we shall select such parts as are marked for additions by Mr. Martyn.

" DESCRIPTIONS, &c.

" These are herbaceous plants, and some of them parasitical; the root leaves are channelled, and mostly toothed and spiny about the edge. Plumier and others have separated this genus into three, and in that have been followed by Mr. Miller, who treats of it under three separate articles, *Ananas*, *Bromelia*, and *Karatas*. The original *Bromelias* of Plumier have the flowers in a loose spike or panicle, on a scape or stalk, and the fruits can hardly be called berries. In the *Karatas* the flowers are in a close radical corymb, and the fruits are ovate berries. The flowers of the *Ananas* are in a close spike, on a scape which is leafy at top: as the spike ripens, it takes the form of a fleshy, scaly strobile, vulgarly called the fruit, and composed of many coadunate berries, which have scarcely any cells or seeds."

" Linneus ascribes this plant (1. *Bromelia Ananas*) to New Spain and Surinam; and Acoffa says, that it was first sent from the province of Santa Croce in Brasil into the West, and afterwards into the East Indies. Probably it is common to the tropical parts of the three continents of Asia, Africa, and America.

" It is commonly said, that Sir Matthew Decker, of Richmond, was the first who raised the *Ananas* here; but it was introduced into England so far back as the year 1690, by Mr. Bentinck."

" A picture is reported to be extant of King Charles (I suppose the second) with his gardener presenting him a pine-apple; but the fruit might come from Holland, or the picture might be painted abroad."

Here we must a little interrupt our extracts, to give some account of this picture. It is at Strawberry-hill, in the breakfast room, one pair of stairs, and is thus described in Lord Orford's

ford's own Catalogue. "A most curious picture of Rose the royal gardener, presenting the first pine-apple raised in England to Charles II, who is standing in a garden: the house seems to be Dawny Court near Windsor, the villa of the Dutchess of Cleveland. The whole piece is well painted, probably by Danckers. It was a present to Mr. Walpole from the Rev. Mr. Pennicott of Ditton, to whom it was bequeathed by Mr. London, grandson of him who was partner with Wife." Danckers left England, according to Lord Orford's account (vol. iv, p. 299) at the time of the Popish plot, which was in 1678. He had originally been bred an engraver; but took to landscape in England, and painted several of the royal palaces. This therefore seems to fix the date of the picture before the year 1678.

"Louriro mentions a variety that occurs in Cochin China, not inferior in flavour to the best pines, which continues quite green when ripe, with a white flesh.

"Other varieties most known among the growers of pines, are the following:

"1st. Black Antigua, or Ripley.

"2nd. Granada Pine, with marbled leaves, and very large fruit.

"3rd. Bog-warpe Pine, with broad green leaves.

"4th. Smooth, long, narrow-leaved Pine.

"5th. Montserrat.

"6th. Surinam Pine, with silver-striped leaves.

"7th. The same, with gold-striped leaves.

"But it is unnecessary to be more particular in such varieties, because they are not permanent, new ones may be produced every day, and after all the oval whitish-fleshed or Queen-Pine, and particularly the pyramidal yellow-fleshed or Sugar-loaf Pine, are confessedly superior in flavour to all the rest.

"2nd. The leaves of the *Pinguin* are very thick about the root; and from the centre of these springs the stalk, which generally rises to the height of twelve or sixteen inches above the foliage, and divides into many little lateral branches, bearing so many single flowers. When the plant begins to shoot into blossom, all the leaves become of a fine scarlet colour towards the stalk, and continue so until the fruit begins to ripen, but it then begins to change, and afterwards fades gradually away. The fruits are separate, each nearly of the size of a walnut, the pulp has an agreeable sweetness, but joined with such a sharpness, that if suffered to lie any time in the mouth it will corrode the palate and gums so as to make the blood ooze from those tender parts*. The fruit is thus described by the accurate Gaertner. It is an inferior berry of an ovate pyramidal shape, obscurely three-cornered, covered with a rind which is rugged, with raised confluent dots within three-celled. Rind thick, suberose, fleshy, producing three membranaceous

* Browne Jam.

partitions on the inside which meet at the axis. Flesh pulpy, membranaceous, of a pale watery colour, and divided into several partial cells. Receptacle none, but the seeds nestle in their proper cells, directing their navels towards the axis of the berry: they are of an ovate-globular form, swelling, lenticular, narrower at the navel, having a small brown tubercle at the top, smooth, shining, of a ferruginous chestnut colour."

"It is now very common in Jamaica growing wild in most of the Savannas and on the rocky hills. It is commonly used there, and in the other islands of the West Indies, for fencing pasture lands, its leaves being very formidable to cattle, the edges being very prickly and the prickles arched backwards: these stripped of their pulp, soaked in water, and beaten with a wooden mallet, yield a strong thread which is twisted into ropes and whips, and by the Spaniard is manufactured into hammocks, it has also been worked into good linen cloth.

"A small quantity of the juice of the fruit in water, makes an admirable cooling draught in fevers, a tea-spoonful corrected with sugar, destroys worms in children, cleanses and heals the thrush, and other ulcerations in the mouth and throat, and is extremely diuretic, it also makes a very fine vinegar*.

"Dampier says, the Penguin fruit is of two sorts, the yellow and the red. The yellow grows on a green stem, as big as a man's arm, above a foot high; the leaves are half a foot long, and an inch broad, the edges full of sharp prickles, the fruit grows at the head of the stalk, in two or three great clusters, sixteen or twenty in a cluster, it is as big as a pullet's egg, round and yellow; the rind is thick and the inside is full of small black seeds. It is a sharp pleasant fruit. The red (B Karatas, n 3.) is of the bigness and colour of a small dry onion, and is in shape much like a nine-pin; it grows not on a stem, as the other, but one end on the ground the other standing upright, sixty or seventy grow close together on the same cluster of roots, the leaves are a foot and a half or two feet long, prickly like the former. They are both wholesome, and grow so plentifully in the bay of Campeachy, that there is no passing for their high prickly leaves. The Penguin was cultivated in the Eltham garden, and before that, in 1690, in the royal garden at Hampton Court.

"3rd. This species generally grows at the root of some shady tree, in hilly and woody places in America and the Caribbee islands. It is an elegant plant, producing numerous radical leaves, which are of a subulate linear shape, sharp pointed and edged with spines. The flowers are scentless, seated in the bottom or middle part of the plant, rose-coloured with the calyx and germ downy. The length of the leaves six or seven feet. The fruits are oval, two or three hundred in number, and grow sessile in a heap or central group, surrounded by paleaceous expanded leaves or bracts, they contain a succulent whitish or yellowish flesh under a coriaceous and yellowish bark; when ripe they are far from unpleasant, but when unripe they set the teeth on edge, and excoriate the mouth. The oeconomy of this plant in the preservation of its

* Long's Jamaica, 3. 738,

fruit to maturity is wonderful; being so protected by the spines of the surrounding leaves, as to be secure from all injuries. It propagates itself by mucus produced amongst the leaves, which become procumbent after the fruit is ripened."

On the sixth species, which is the *Bromelia humilis*, or dwarf *Bromelia*, Mr. Martyn inserts the following observations.

"6th. The leaves of this species resemble those of the other kinds, but are the most strong and rigid of any. They are also somewhat shorter and more spreading: the flowers are blue, about thirty in number, situated in the same manner as in the *Bromelia Karatas* of Plumier. The first also is similar but somewhat smaller. The plant readily propagates itself by runners or shooting processes, which proceed from the axilla of the lower leaves, and which produce a young plant from their extremities. It therefore differs in this respect from the *Bromelia Karatas* of Plumier, and from the *Bromelia Pinguin*, in having the flowers sessile. In other respects it much resembles that species.

"7th. Native of Brazil."

To the account of the propagation and culture of this plant, which follows, the present editor does not appear to have made any additions. We will therefore proceed at once to the article, on that prime beauty of our stoves and greenhouses, the *Fuchsia*, of which we shall insert the whole; observing, that the additions of Mr. Martyn are every where pointed out, by being inclosed between brackets.

"*FUCHSIA* (so named in honour of Leonard Fuchs, a famous German Botanist, author of *Historia Stirpium*, in 1542, fol. with 516 excellent engravings in wood.)

Lin. gen. n. 128. Reich. n. 518. Schreb. n. 652.

Plum. 14. Juss. 320. Skinnera Forst. 29.

Dorvallia Commers.

Class. 3. 1. Oständria Monogynia.

Nat. order of *Onagrea*, Juss.

"GENERIC CHARACTER.

CAL. Perianth one leaved, funnel-form, coloured, superior, deciduous. Tube ovate at the base, contracted above it, then gradually widening, patulous, angular. Border short, four-parted; parts ovate, acuminate, spreading.

COR. Petals four, ovate, acuminate, sessile, spreading the same length with the parts of the calyx.

STAM. Filaments four (or eight) filiform, erect, inserted, into the tube of the calyx below the middle, and a little longer than the tube. Anthers twin.

PIST. Germ inferior, ovate; below the insertion of the calyx contracted. Style simple, the length of the stamens. Stigma obtuse (club shaped?)

PER. Berry ovate, four grooved, four celled.

SEEDS.

580 *Miller's Gardener's and Botanist's Dictionary. Vol. I.*

SEEDS many, ovate, fixed in a double row to a columnar receptacle in the middle of the berry.

" ESSENTIAL CHARACTER.

CAL. One-leafed, coloured, bearing the corolla; very large. PET. four, small. Berry inferior, four celled, with many seeds.

" SPECIES.

1st. *Fuchsia triphylla. Three leaved Fuchsia.*

Lin. spec. ed. 1. app. 1191. ed. 2. 159. syst. 361. Reich. 2. 160. Mill. dict.

γ. *triphylla*, flore coccineo. *Plum. gen. 14. ic. 133. f. 1.*

γ. *racemosa. Lamarck encycl. 565. Peduncles one-flowered, leaves by threes.*

2nd. *Fuchsia coccinea. Scarlet flowered Fuchsia.*

Ait. hort. kew. 2. 3. Curtis Magaz. 97.

γ. *magellanica. Lamarck encycl. 565. Thileo Feuillée itin. 64. t.*

47. *Leaves opposite, ovate, toothletted, petals obovate, oblique.*

[3rd. *Fuchsia multiflora.*

Lin. syst. 361. Reich. 161. Peduncles many-flowered.

4th. *Fuchsia excorticata.*

Lin. syst. 361. suppl. 217. Lamarck encycl. 566. Skinnera excorticata. Forst. gen. 5. 3. t. 29. Peduncles axillary, one flowered, leaves ovate, alternate.

5th. *Fuchsia involucreta.*

Savart. prodr. 62. Flowers involucred.

" DESCRIPTIONS, &c.

" 1st. Root woody, branched, reddish. Stem, herbaceous, upright, quite simple, reddish green leafy, two feet high at most. Leaves lanceolate, entire pale green, a little firm, or coriaceous, sessile, disposed in threes. Peduncles one flowered, scattered, and forming a straight terminating raceme. Flowers very large, very fine, of a very bright scarlet, having eight stamens, not projecting beyond the flower, and the berry is a little larger than an olive; fleshy, soft, reddish, black, somewhat pubescent, of a very pleasant taste; the seeds are small and brown; Plumier observed this plant in Saint Domingo*,] and it was afterwards found by Dr. Houston at Carthagen in New Spain, whence he sent the seeds into England [it must have been cultivated here, therefore, by Mr. Miller, before 1733, in which year Dr. Houston died.

" 2nd. This is a shrub growing to the height of six or seven feet. The leaves are commonly opposite, on short petioles, of a fine green, having the veins tinged with red, with a fine down on them. Peduncles axillary, one flowered, longer than the leaves. Flowers pendulous, bright scarlet, with a four-parted calyx, four petals, and eight stamens.

" Scarlet Fuchsia is a plant of peculiar beauty, producing its rich pendent blossoms through most part of the summer: the petals in the centre of the flower are particularly deserving of notice; they somewhat resemble a small roll of the richest purple-coloured ribband†. It is a native of Chili, and was introduced into the royal garden at Kew

* Lamarck.

† Curtis.

in 1788, by Captain Firth. It flowers from May to July*. Mr. Lee of Hammer-smith is said to have had this plant first for sale.†]

The reader will easily perceive, that this second species is the plant lately so justly fashionable in all gardens. We proceed to the other species as enumerated in the Dictionary.

“ [3rd. This was found in South America by Mutis.

“ 4th. This is a very smooth tree. Leaves on long petioles, hoary underneath, very finely serrate. Flowers pendulous, very large. Germ oblong. Corolla funnel-shaped; tube globular at the base, then cylindric, and gradually widening into the border, which is eight-cleft, four of the alternate segments lanceolate, spreading, the other four one-third only of the size of the others, and erect‡.

“ According to Forster there is no corolla, except four nectaries, which are ovate-lanceolate, erect, interposed between the segments of the calyx, and only one-third of their size. Others call these the petals. The tube of the calyx is callous at the base, and curved in a little; the segments lanceolate, horizontal, only half the length of the tube. Filaments eight, the length of the border; anthers orbiculate, fastened by the back to the filaments. Style filiform, erect, longer than the calyx. Stigma globular, tuberculed. Capsule (Berry ?) oblong.

“ Native of New Zealand. Forster gave it the name of *Skinnera* from Mr. Skinner of Oxford—“ *acutissimo oculatissimoque botanico Oxoniensi*,” as he expresses it.

“ 5th. Native of Jamaica§.]

“ PROPAGATION AND CULTURE.

“ 1st. This is propagated by seeds, which must be sown in pots filled with rich light earth, and plunged into a hot-bed of tanner's bark, and treated in the same way as other seeds from hot countries. In about a month or six weeks after the seeds are sown, the plant will begin to appear, when they should be carefully cleared from weeds, and frequently refreshed with water, to promote their growth; and when they are about two inches high, they should be shaken out of the pot, and separated carefully; then plant each into a small pot filled with light rich earth, and plunge them again into a hot-bed of tanner's bark, being careful to screen them from the sun until they have taken new root; after which time they must have fresh air admitted to them every day, in proportion to the warmth of the season, and should be frequently watered. As the season advances, and becomes warm, the glasses of the hot-bed should be raised higher, to admit a greater share of air to the plants, to prevent their drawing up weak; and when the plants are grown so tall as to reach the glasses, they should be removed into the bark-house, and plunged into the tan-bed. In winter these plants require to be kept very warm, and at that season they must not have much water, but in summer it must be often repeated.

* Hort Kew. † Curtis. ‡ Linn. suppl. § Forst. gen.
 || Swartz.

“ These

"These plants are too tender to thrive in the open air in this country, even in the hottest part of the year; therefore they should constantly remain in the stove, observing to let in a large share of fresh air in summer, but in winter they must be kept warm: with this management the plants will produce their flowers, and make a beautiful appearance in the stove, amongst other tender exotic plants.

"[The second species, which we now have in our stoves, if it be really different from the first, may however be treated in the same manner.

"Though it will not succeed well in the winter, nor be easily propagated except in a stove, yet it will flower very well, during the summer months, in a good green-house, or hot-bed frame. It is easily increased by layers and cuttings, as well as by seeds*."]]

We cannot expect often to see a work of such magnitude, executed in so complete and masterly a style as this edition of Miller's Dictionary; and we doubt not that the completion of it will be an object of eager expectation, not only to this country, but to all Europe.

ART. II. Essays on some select Parts of the Liturgy of the Church of England: being the Substance of a Course of Lectures delivered in the Parish Church of St. Werburgh, Bristol. By Thomas T. Biddulph, A. M. late of Queen's College, Oxford. 12mo. 339 pp. 3s. Dilly.

THE plan of this work is rather singular, yet is not injudicious; and the execution is highly useful. The author shows himself, upon every occasion, a friend to the Church of England, and such a friend as does her most honour, a truly religious man.

In a prefatory address to the inhabitants of the parish, Mr. Biddulph avows his objects to be these two:

"First," he says, he aims at "the confirmation of those members of our church-establishment in the precious truths, which our liturgy, articles, and homilies inculcate; who in these 'perilous times' are in danger of being 'corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.' Many are the agents, whom the Prince of Darkness has enlisted and commissioned in the present age, for the subversion of those venerable bulwarks, which have hitherto proved so effectual an impediment to the exercise of that unlimited dominion over the minds of men, which he has been always aiming to obtain. Though the author most fir-

acutely wishes success to the gospel of Christ in every channel, through which it is likely to be promoted; yet he must be allowed to express his persuasion, that the sacred walls of the establishment are under God, and in subservience to his most holy word, our strongest barrier against that inundation of infidelity, which threatens to overwhelm the land. A second object, no less momentous, is a display of the character of a true churchman. For, as the moral law is a speculum, which discovers on inspection our likeness or dissimilitude to the image of God; so the liturgy of the Church of England may produce a parallel effect, and represent us in our true colours; either as dissemblers with God, whilst we profess to embrace doctrines which at bottom we reject, use prayers from which our hearts recoil, and openly avow an attachment to God and his service, which our lives demonstrate to have no existence; or else as sincere worshippers of the Tri-une Jehovah, in whom there is no guile, and who wish every day to be animated more and more by that spirit of vital godliness, which our liturgy breathes through all her varied forms of devotion."

This extract exhibits at once the design of the work, and the character of the author, to our readers; as a design that we cannot but commend, and as a character that we cannot but reverence.

"The orthodoxy of our public services," the author remarks as he prosecutes his plan, "will be considered by every friend to truth, one of its strongest recommendations, if it should appear (as the author devoutly wishes it may in the course of the following essays) that our forms of worship harmonize with the truth of God, as revealed in the Bible. Our liturgy is not like a nose of wax, that may be adapted to every face. It is not contrived like Mr. Pope's universal prayer, to suit the taste of infidels and heretics. But its language on all the fundamental doctrines of Christianity, is clear and decisive. This circumstance indeed will not recommend it to those, who have imbibed the spirit of the present day; in which indifference to all religious truth, misnamed charity and candour, has overflowed like a deluge almost every rank and order of men. Our reformers fought not to please men, but God. They fought not to gratify the pride of philosophy. They took care not to open a passage, whereby man's fallen reason might be exalted to the throne of judgment, while 'the oracles of God,' in a state of degradation, are placed at the footstool. Ease of conscience in those persons, who, while they pretend respect for Divine Revelations, trample them under their feet, was no part of their concern. But the decisive language of our liturgy will endear it to those who believe, 'that there is no other name under Heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved, but the name of Jesus Christ.' Therein the doctrines of the Fall, the Trinity, the Atonement and saving Merit of Christ, and the sanctifying influence of the Holy Spirit, are asserted in pointed and energetic terms."

In this account we cordially concur with Mr. Biddulph, as just to the character, and honourable to the reputation, of the Church of England.

"The

"The Gospel," he adds, as he proceeds, "acts powerfully on the understanding, and produces a rational conviction that it is our interest, as well as our duty, to 'live soberly, righteously, and godly in this present world.' It produces demonstration in the conscience, that sin is the cause of present torment, and leads to eternal ruin; that holiness brings present happiness, and is an essential preparative for, though not the meritorious cause of, eternal life. It acts with an invincible energy on the will, supplying effectual motives to produce obedience; for the love of Christ, when experienced in the soul, has a constraining power as much superior to the motives of philosophy, as the light of the meridian sun is to the feeble glimmering of the glow-worm; which is just sufficient to attract the notice of the traveller, but leaves him to pursue his journey in the dark. The influence of Gospel-truth turns duty into pleasure; and proves, to the sinner's full conviction, that 'God's service is perfect freedom.'

"Every attribute which we ascribe to Jehovah," this author observes concerning God, "he possesses after an infinite manner. What an amazing thought is an infinite mind, 'full of compassion!' The great and wide sea, and unmeasurable space, afford ideas that overwhelm our staggering faculties; yet these are limited. But the bosom of our God is higher than Heaven, longer than the earth, and broader than the sea; and is 'full of compassion.' Our grandest ideas of it are as inadequate to the subject, as a drop of water to the ocean, or a single ray of light to the flux of radiance from the orb of day.

"Many perhaps on hearing this comfortable declaration," he remarks, on the promise of pardon to repentance and belief, "will immediately say, 'would to God I could repent and believe! But I find by experience, that I might as easily form an aqueduct, that should convey to England the waters of Jordan, as force one tear of godly sorrow from mine own eyes; that to cleanse the Augean stable of my heart, is not work for human ability; and that I could with equal facility touch the planet Saturn with my finger, or by a chain of my own fabrication bring it into contact with the earth, as believe on Jesus Christ so, as to pacify my conscience, or quiet my dreadful apprehensions of the consequences of my sins.' Happy, thrice happy conviction! This is a lesson you did not learn in the schools of philosophy, but at the feet of Jesus, from the secret instructions of his spirit. 'Flesh and blood did not reveal it to you, but our Father which is in Heaven.' Come then, and 'let us beseech him to grant us true repentance and his holy Spirit.' If you feel your own weakness, you are in a right temper for prayer, and will heartily 'cry to the strong for strength.'

"Though controversy with the various deistical writers either of past ages or the present," Mr. Biddulph says as he rises in his tone of thinking, "is not the business of these pages; there is one observation, that may here be properly introduced, viz. that the fortress of unbelief is seated in the human heart, and not in the head. It originates in the will and affections, not in the understanding, which is forced into the service of these tyrannical lords. Reason is made subservient to inclination. If the love of sin were destroyed from among the sons of men, every fibre of that deadly night-shade, Deism, would at the same moment be eradicated."

We could with pleasure to ourselves, and with profit to our readers, draw many passages more of a similar nature from the present work. But we must remember, that variety is one material character of a Review, and that one article must not bear a size over-proportioned to others. We therefore hasten to lay before our readers one or two passages peculiarly proper for our own times.

"The Glorious Gospel of the Blessed God," Mr. Biddulph observes with the greatest propriety, "is not only beneficial to the individual who feels its influence; producing peace in his conscience, mildness in his tempers, and contentment in his bosom, while it changes the ferocious lion of the forest into a gentle and patient lamb: it not only conduces to domestic comfort, making men to be of one mind in an house, and converting the wild uproar of contentious debate into the peaceful language of prayer, praise, and heavenly intercourse; enabling husbands and wives, parents and children, masters and servants, to fill up their several situations with mutual satisfaction and benefit: but its influence on society at large is equally benign. If the spirit of Christianity reign in the hearts of Kings, and those who are in authority, it diffuses its salutary influence on all around; like a river, which as it flows through an extensive country, spreads fertility over all its borders, filling the hearts of thousands with joy and gladness. If it possess the bosom of a subject, it makes him a quiet and peaceable, an affectionate and useful, member of society; producing in every mind where it finds reception, so far as it prevails, without a single-exception, loyalty to the constituted authorities, and obedience to the laws of the country, in which the favored partaker of it lives. How different from all this is the genius of infidelity, in the effects which it produces, both on the heart of the individual, the comfort of domestic life, and also on the peace and well-being of society! The last hours of the unhappy Voltaire afford a lively comment, on the wretched condition in which infidelity leaves its deluded advocates, as to the state of their own souls. Though he had for a long course of years employed both genius and learning, in the impious effort of erecting a fortress on the foundation of Atheism, which should be tenable against the artillery of a guilty conscience, and the seats of death and judgment; the walls of the whole fabric mouldered into nothing, at the blasting of the breath of God's displeasure, and left the miserable builder a defenceless prey to anguish and despair."

"Are our religious liberties valuable?" asks this judiciously zealous divine, in the last passage that we shall cite from him; "Do we justly prize them above all our other possessions? Do we pray for the peace and prosperity of our Zion? This question must be answered with an hearty affirmative, by every believer in Jesus. Are not our religious liberties, and our Christian privileges, as extensive as can be desired? Is not the prophecy of Micah experimentally fulfilled in us, who are the inhabitants of this favored island? 'They shall sit every man under his vine, and under his fig-tree; and none shall make them afraid.' May not the lord address the people of England in the same language, with which he appealed to his ancient church? 'O inhabi-

tants of Britain and men of England, judge I pray you between me and my vineyard. What could have been done more to my vineyard, that I have not done in it, Wherefore when I looked that it should bring forth grapes,' even the fruits of cheerful obedience and lively gratitude, 'brought it forth wild grapes,' ingratitude, discontent, and murmuring? Can it be supposed, that any political chance would increase our spiritual advantages. It seems madness to suppose it, when we consider for a moment the character of those men, by whose agency alone it would be effected. Under existing circumstances, any alteration of our government would probably diminish, if not annihilate them all. But some persons seem, either through inattention, or an intellectual phrenzy, to form the expectation of gathering grapes from thorns, and figs from thistles. We will leave them to the chimeras of their own disordered imaginations, and continue to pray 'God save the King!' That, under the shadow of his paternal authority, we may continue to enjoy 'the means of grace and the hope of glory!' Thank God, our laws prohibit vice, and encourage virtue; they protect religion, and curb the rampant spirit of infidelity. Long may they continue to be executed by a mild and indulgent Prince, who loves his people, and labours to promote their happiness!"

We here dismiss the work, recommending it to the attention of our more serious readers, as properly sprinkled with learning, and regularly seasoned with judgment; as frequently enlivened with pleasing allusions, and strongly illuminated by that brightest of all flames, the flame of true religion.

ART. III. *A Compendious View of the Civil Law; being the Substance of a Course of Lectures, read in the University of Dublin. By Arthur Browne, Esq. S. F. T. C. D. Professor of Civil Law in that University, and Representative in Parliament for the same. To which will be added, a Sketch of the Practice of the Ecclesiastical Courts, with some Cases determined therein in Ireland, and some useful Directions for the Clergy. Vol. I. 8vo. Dublin. 386 pp. 1797.*

WE are happy in an opportunity of exercising our office of *British Critics* on any performance from the kingdom of Ireland: may the same constitution, laws, and language, and may the same love of order and learning contribute to unite the subjects of both kingdoms in a disposition to obey and support the sovereignty, that holds them all together.

The present work is an attempt to add somewhat of classical ornament to the study of the law. Some insight into the
civil

civil law has generally been deemed at least an embellishment to the rugged mass of common law learning ; but persons have not always agreed in the time and manner most proper for students to acquire some knowledge of this kind. Some have advised, that a lawyer should first be grounded in Puffendorf and Grotius, and should then proceed to the Institutes of Justinian, and other parts of the Corpus Juris Civilis, before he opens a book of our native common law. Others have thought this preliminary course too laborious, and likely to exhaust upon matters of mere ornament that patience, which should be reserved for the useful, and absolutely necessary researches that are to follow. It may also be doubted whether prepossessing young minds in this manner with the notions of a foreign jurisprudence, may not a little impede them in forming clear conceptions of similar subjects, when they meet with them in our own usages and customs. Mr. B. has followed a method, which is free from these objections ; the present epitome of Civil Law is intended for those who have already perused Blackstone's Commentaries ; and who being thus grounded in English law, may safely indulge their curiosity in comparing the rules and opinions of the Roman code, upon the various subjects he had been before examining in our municipal law. He divides his work into chapters, bearing nearly the same titles as chapters in Blackstone's Commentaries, and under each gives the doctrines of the civil law, comparing them with those of our own. This method seems to us well chosen, as it keeps the student in the tract of his first studies, and does not lead him into a further research, than may be immediately and closely applicable to them. This method reminds us of a work in two octavo volumes, published some few years ago by Mr. Ayres, intitled, " A Comparative View of the Differences between the English and Irish Statute Law." Mr. A. there followed Blackstone through the whole of his Commentaries, and gave under every chapter a comparative view of its peculiar subject, with reference to the law of the two countries.

The reader must be aware, that many of the heads in Blackstone are not capable of being brought into this disquisition, such as those relating to the King and Parliament, and those of tenures and real property ; but all such as are *in pari materie* with heads of discussion in the civil law, are faithfully discoursed upon. The following are the heads which Mr. Browne has chosen from the great division of " The Rights of Persons" : namely, Husband and Wife—Master and Servant—Father and Son—Guardian and Ward—Corporations. From the great division of " *The Rights of Things*," he gives the following :—Origin of Property, and Division of Things—of
Things

Things, or Hereditaments incorporeal—of Estates in Things—of Estates upon Condition—of Estates in Jointenancy, Coparcenary, and Common—of Remainder and Reversion—Law of Descents—of Title by Occupancy—of Title by Prescription, Escheats, Forfeiture, and Alienation—of Title by Gift; inter vivos, mortis causa, and propriæ nuptias—of Title by last Will or Testament—of Title by Contract. In this manner he disposes of the matter contained in the two first volumes of Blackstone, being the two divisions of Rights of Persons, and Rights of Things. The volume is distributed into seventeen Lectures; and to the whole are prefixed, three Introductory Lectures; one, on the Utility of the Study of the Civil Law; a second, on the comparative Merits of the Roman and English Laws; the third, on the Law of Nations. As a specimen of the work, which will at the same time operate as a recommendation of the study, we shall give a passage from the Introductory Lecture.

“ In the first place—the Civil Law is an excellent repository of those rules, which ought to guide the natural conduct of states, and contains in its bosom, the law of nations, as well as of nature. It is evident that nations in their transactions with each other, must have a common appeal to the law of nature and right reason. But this is originally an unwritten standard. The philosophic Roman legislator may be said to have reduced it to writing, and the world has decreed, that to his rules as declaratory and explicative of the law which right reason has dictated to nations, the appeal shall lie. It becomes therefore a science absolutely essential to the statesman and negotiator. No where will they find, the rights of ambassadors, the laws of war, the rules of federal construction, so well, or so accurately laid down.

“ Grotius and other writers on public law, have drank deep of these springs, and acknowledged their obligations to the Roman code. It is impossible for us even to understand the technical language or mode of reasoning of foreign powers, without reference to this law. Some writers have imputed that superiority in negotiation which foreigners, particularly the French claim over us, to their superior knowledge of the civil law. They probably attribute too much efficacy to a favourite study, but that this comparative ignorance must have its effect can scarcely be doubted. How is that man qualified to settle and confirm a treaty who does not know the subsequent construction which it may admit, or the rules which are to guide and govern its interpretation. How can we answer the claims and manifestos of other nations, if delivered in phrases and resting upon principles and rules of argument with which we are unacquainted. Leagues and alliances, tariffs and pacts of commerce, treaties of peace and proclamations of war, all the disputes in Europe about the right of succession and limits of territory have such a reference to this law, that without some acquaintance at least with its outline, modern history is unintelligible.

“ Having

" Having discussed the advantage of this pursuit in public, we proceed to speak of its use in private affairs.

" If we regard the Continent, proofs are unnecessary; a momentary view will suffice. The Civil Code among most continental nations is the Common Law of their land, and governs all the transactions of individuals with each other, whenever it is not modified and controuled by positive ordinances, or opposed by constant usage to the contrary; and from its principles light is borrowed, if the positive Statute laws are ambiguous or imperfect. This is the case particularly, in Holland and all the United Provinces, where it has obtained a greater authority than in any other country, perhaps on account of the excellent laws of trade, which it furnished to that commercial nation. The practitioners in their courts refer to the Roman Edicts with the same familiarity, with which we speak of an act of parliament.

" In Germany, the Assessors or Judges of the Imperial Chamber, (which is the Supreme Court of the Empire) swear upon entering into their office, that they will judge all causes according to the ordinances of the Empire, or in defect of them according to the Roman Civil Law; and all writers agree, that it is the common law of the Empire though it prevails less in the northern parts, especially among the Saxons than elsewhere. The same with little alteration may be said of France⁴.

" If we turn to Italy, we see indeed the Venetians, who always maintained their liberties against the Roman Emperors, partially adhering to their own laws, and rejecting even wisdom when moving from a hostile region. But in the Papal Territories, and more especially in the city of Rome where the Canon Law might expect undisputed supremacy, it frequently gives place to its celebrated rival which reigns even in the Roman Rota. In the other European states, admitted in different degrees, it stands the interpreter of Municipal Law, and points the road to judicial station. Even in our neighbouring kingdom of Scotland, the form and practice of the Civil Law is observed in all their proceedings, and not many years since this knowledge was universally coveted by the gentlemen of that country, even those unconnected with profession, not merely as an avenue to profit, but as a most useful exercise of the understanding. If then we have any commercial or other intercourse with foreign nations, if we would wish to understand their history, policy, or constitution, here is the proper and necessary clue to guide our steps.

" Its benefits within our own national domestic sphere, are next to be estimated in the balance. In the Courts, Military, Maritime, and Ecclesiastical, its predominance is universally known. The first are by disuse almost fallen into oblivion, but the jurisdiction of the Court of Admiralty in England, is of great moment and extent; and as the late expansion of our commercial rights, will necessarily produce in this country many novel and important questions, an accurate knowledge of the law of nations (the great expounder of which as has

• Or might have been, formerly. Rev.

been observed is the Civil Law) will be more than ever necessary. In all suits to which the Ecclesiastical Courts are competent, the Civil Law has great influence. In testamentary causes it rules. Undoubtedly in many cases, Common and Statute Laws will interpose their power in the form of prohibition, but still the subjects over which they have a peculiar jurisdiction are exceedingly numerous; over this extensive field, the Civil and Canon Laws bear united sway, the former usually paramount, the current of the latter defying pursuit, without a previous knowledge of its parent stream, on whose model it was formed, and from whose sources it has copiously borrowed.

"An endeavour to persuade the common lawyer to prosecute the theme of our present commendation, may be thought to admit more difficulty. It would certainly be pedantic to deny, that many lawyers may and do reach the summit of wealth and reputation, without its aid. A certain technical knowledge, assisted by exterior qualities or fortunate events, may often acquire the smiles of fortune and of fame. But still, it will be true, that the man whose philosophic ambition aims at something beyond the skill of an able attorney: *Qui vult rerum cognoscere causas*; who with a scholar's mind, wishes to know the rudiments and origin of the rules laid down for his instruction, ought to be a disciple of Justinian as well as of Coke. How is this position (it may be asked) consistent with a truth universally known, that the foundations of the Common Law were laid in the Feudal system? Feudal principles indeed supplied the foundations, but were utterly incompetent to the superstructure. They breathed only war. Strangers to commerce and the arts of peace, they regarded landed property in the hands of the vassal, only as the instrument of military strength, and the source from whence the lord derived his supplies. On contracts, covenants, obligations, those vast fields of modern controversy; in short, on all things called in the metaphysical language of some legal writers, *things purely rational*, that system was silent. To these deficiencies the full treasures of Imperial Jurisprudence offered a ready supply. It was eagerly grasped, and all the learning of our early writers, Bracton, Britton and Fleta, upon these subjects, shines in borrowed plumes. In process of time, when the rude spirit of ancient chivalry was calmed, when the shackles upon alienation were struck off, and wiser policy calling the attention of the nation to its commercial advantages and insular situation, expanded our sails over every field of the ocean, a new series of transactions arose amongst men—new subjects of controversy—new sources of litigation, and difficulties, which found no regulation in Feudal regulations. Hence much of the Civil Law, which had diffusively treated of these matters, was incorporated with our own, tho' by long use, the debt is forgotten, and we are apt to consider it as part of our original stock. If we add to these observations, one further consideration, that, great part of the business of these countries is done in Courts of Equity, whose rules and practice for the most part, trace their descent from the Roman Forum, and that in Ireland no distinction is made between the Common and the Equity lawyer, there will not appear much room for condemning in the temporal courts, the knowledge of the Civilian."

Short notes are subjoined to the text, which we have here omitted. The whole seems to be executed in a way suitable to the occasion. The author does not furnish the abundance of matter to be found in the larger treatises of Wood, or Ayliffe; nor, on the other hand, is the subject dispatched in the splendid brevity preferred by Mr. Gibbon in his short historical narrative; nor is there here any of the classical illustration which was the principal object of Dr. Taylor's work. Mr. B.'s design was to illustrate, not ancient writers, but the present law of England; this he has performed, by bringing together such a selection of materials, as seemed proportioned to the juridical attainments of his pupils; and he has delivered it in the plain, didactic style of a lecturer. We think he has succeeded in producing a book, that will be read with profit by those who are not conversant in this sort of learning, and with pleasure by those, who wish only to refresh their memory; and we shall be glad to see this specimen followed by a second volume, which we suppose will close the design.

ART. IV. *The History of the New World, by Don Juan Baptista Munoz. Translated from the Spanish; with Notes by the Translator; an engraved Portrait of Columbus, and a Map of Espanola.* 8vo. 8s. Robinsons. 1797.

SO much has been done during the reign and under the auspices of his present Majesty, by the navigators of this country, to encrease our knowledge of the remote parts of the globe, that the public curiosity is always strongly excited by books on the subject of foreign research; and surely none can be more acceptable than an account, drawn up from authentic documents, of that happy adventurer (happy we mean as to the consequence of his discoveries) who opened a new world to the science and the commerce of mankind.

The author, in his Introduction, states at large the sources whence he drew his narrative, and the assistance he received from the Spanish government, of which he has made a very judicious use.

We quote the following extract relating to the supposed difference between the inhabitants of the old and new continents, as it is a subject on which there has been much variety of opinion.

“ The variety, however, which marks the human race is still more wonderful. The new world has represented in the different races of her inhabitants, so many rounds of a lofty ladder, the extremes of which are marked by the *white* and the *black* of the old world. Another

ladder still longer, might be formed by the different degrees of barbarity in which they were found, from the line that separates the savage man from the beast, to the semblance of an orderly civilized society. Reason pressed down, the laws of nature enveloped in darkness, the grossest idolatry every where predominant, savage brutality triumphant, the most-unnatural vices prevalent, learning and science entirely unknown. A vast number of arts, how strange! some of them still in their infancy, and only learned by imitation, but not so much as a single one taught, studied or improved on principles. Even agriculture, the first of all arts, when brought to what they considered its highest degree of perfection, scarce deserved that name, and how could it have made a greater progress without the assistance of cattle, and a knowledge of iron? The most finished and splendid works, which the luxury and magnificence of their half-clad princes and nobles could boast, in the most cultivated parts of America, were the efforts of mechanism and patience, and after all were not much superior to the ordinary productions of the little wants and conveniences of the lower class of the frequently naked inhabitants. These barbarians, content with their natural state of misery, scarce ever permitted their wishes to roam after foreign conveniences, or to imitate them. Thus every family, nation, or tribe, confined themselves within the district in which they lived, absorbed in ignorance, the most torpid indolence, and laziness. Each had its own language, peculiar customs, idols and superstition. It is true that some of the natives of *Brazil*, *Terra Firma*, the interior provinces of *North America*, and particularly those of *New Spain* and *Peru*, emerged at different times from such miserable situations, and were distinguished by more general and copious language, but it does not appear that any of them ever attained to a sufficient number of general and abstract ideas, or scarce ever tasted the blessings of a tranquil government, so as to rise from that depth of obscurity to the light of true knowledge. Cut off from every intercourse and acquaintance with enlightened nations, they even forgot the first traditions of human kind. The remembrance of the deluge it seems was the only event propagated, and preserved among the people of the New World, though interpolated and wrapped up in fable, as it was amongst several civilized nations of the ancient world. But neither this, nor many other opinions and customs, by means of which sagacity and learning have united their efforts in pursuit of the origin of the Americans, are sufficient to satisfy reason.

“ The human race sprung from one stock, the deluge destroyed it entirely, except the family of *Noah*; imbibed with sufficient knowledge, they handed down the arts and traditions to posterity, which they had received from their ancestors. How comes it then that one branch of this family should entirely forget its origin and preserve nothing of these arts; not even entrusted with the use of iron, and other materials of the first necessity, and that it should sink at last into the utmost stupidity, in which almost all the *Americans*, and the inhabitants of the *South Sea* were found?” P. 74.

This difference we think fully accounted for by the art of writing; which some have been inclined to attribute to divine revelation.

revelation, rather than to any regular process of human invention. Every alphabet we know may, in some measure, be traced to that part of the world where the knowledge of the true Deity was first revealed to mankind; or if the writing of the Chinese be adduced in opposition to this, it may be fairly said, that their mode of expressing language by symbols, is as much inferior to the writing of Europe and Asia, as their idolatry is to true religion; or as the most finished productions of human industry are to the works of the divine power, wrought by what we usually term nature.

We present our readers with another extract, which is the concluding section of this volume.

“Columbus felt not a little satisfaction when he saw so many difficulties subdued, and the *Spaniards* pleased and industrious. The *Indians* were so reconciled to their fate, that a person could travel over the whole island without exposing himself to the least danger; so tractable and submissive, that it did not require any difficulty to draw them from their own scattered plantations and little villages, into the new establishments of the *Spaniards*; a circumstance which Columbus hoped would contribute very much to facilitate the civilization of the natives, the dissemination of Christianity, and the establishment of good order in the payment of the taxes. He flattered himself that in the course of two or three years the royal revenues arising out of the colony would amount at least to sixty millions of maravedis. In addition to this, he planned the establishment of a fort in *Paria*, with a factory for the pearl trade. His mind became untroubled and serene with such ideas and animating prospects; he began at length to taste the fruits of his labours, and persuaded himself that he had settled affairs on such a basis, as to satisfy their Majesties, and to triumph over his enemies. But how unstable is the happiness of man, how evanescent his hopes! Scarce a month had elapsed, since he began to see the end of so many distresses and sorrows, and to believe that the moment had arrived when he might repose himself and enjoy the reward of his toils, when he experienced a disastrous blow, which embittered all the remainder of his life.” P. 543.

This is singularly calculated to excite curiosity for the opening of the next volume, which we hope to see soon announced to the public.

The most painful part of our duty, is to point out faults; and, we are sorry to say, that this translation is frequently incorrect, and sometimes even offends against the rules of grammar.

In p. 102, we find the expression, *having arise*; in p. 141, “I know not whether Fray Hernando Talavern may be reckoned among these nations,” is what we cannot comprehend. In p. 174, we find this, “the tumult and confusion became so universal, that if we may give credit to Oviedo, Columbus, and the Pinzones, on the following day, October the 8th,

8th, found themselves so embarrassed and pressed on every side, as to be obliged to enter into an agreement with his hands.ⁿ In p. 318, either the author or the translator has confounded the Annona with the Anana; neither can we recommend the phrase of *called the name*, in p. 222; and starvation, in p. 448, as examples of elegant language.

As the contents of each book are only placed in a table at the end, the convenience of the reader, who wishes to consult them, should have been considered, by placing the number of each book on the top of the page throughout.

ART. V. *A Third Dissertation on Fever. Part I. Containing the History and Method of Treatment of a regular continued Fever, supposing it is left to pursue its ordinary Course. By George Fordyce, M. D. F. R. S. Senior Physician to St. Thomas's Hospital, and Reader on the Practice of Physic in London. 8vo. 260 pp. 4s. Johnson. 1798.*

THE author proceeds in this third part of his ingenious and singular work, to recount all the symptoms and appearances that precede or accompany a continued fever, in the same manner as he described the symptoms of the ephemera, and intermitting fevers in the former parts; to mark their progress, whether terminating in death or recovery, and to show what diet, management, or medicines, have been observed to have any material effect in retarding or accelerating the solution of the fever, or in contributing to make it more or less mild or deleterious, but without attempting to explain or account for the formation of fever, or the causes of the appearances or symptoms attending it. To those who object to this mode of treating the subject, and expect explanations of the methods by which fever, or the symptoms of fever, are produced, the author ingeniously confesses his ignorance; he describes fevers as a botanist describes plants, who give the shape, colour, and size of the stem, the leaves, flowers, seed vessels, &c. recounts their tastes, smells, and other properties, in order to enable persons to know them, and to range them in their proper classes and orders. A small grain is put into the ground, the seed of any tree or plant; after a given time, the seed-leaves emerge from the earth, the stem rises and increases, puts forth branches, leaves, and, in more or less time, flowers, succeeded by grains or seeds, similar to that which had been sown. The gardener watches the progress of the growth of the plant, observes what injures or improves it, and he who shall have observed these

these circumstances the most attentively, will be enabled to propagate that species of plant most successfully, although he remain perfectly ignorant of the causes why a certain soil, or species of manure, a certain degree of light, heat, moisture, &c. prove beneficial, while a different kind of soil, and a more or less abundant admission or exposure to those elements, would prove mischievous to the plant; still less is he able to explain by what means a plant, so entirely differing in colour, shape, and smell, from the grain he had put into the ground, should be produced from that grain; neither could he have foretold that such a plant would be produced, if he had not been taught by repeated experience that it invariably happened. The author thinks it necessary again to admonish his readers, that fever, according to his idea of it, is a disease of the whole system; that it has a regular march or progression, and having obtained its acmé or height, it declines, and leaves the patient, unless it has been interrupted in its course, or some organ essential to life has been materially injured or destroyed; in which cases the fever becomes irregular, or the patient dies. That although there are many diseases having symptoms similar to those that usually accompany fever, as heat, a quickened pulse, a furred tongue, thirst, head-ach, delirium; yet, as those symptoms are occasioned, or kept up, by some local disease, as inflammation of the pleura, liver, intestines, &c. and cease when the inflammation is cured, such complaints are not by him denominated fever,

“ One criterion,” the author says, p. 3, “ of a regular continued fever, is that it increases for a certain time from its beginning, remains for sometime in its greatest degree, or, as the Greeks call it, acmé, then, without any apparent cause, gradually diminishes, and terminates in health. Or otherwise, a crisis takes place during its progress, and carries off the disease; or the crisis converts it into an intermittent; or in its progress it produces topical inflammation, or kills the patient. Any disease not having these qualities, is not a regular continued fever.”

The author further observes, p. 4,

“ That when a cause is applied which produces fever, it produces it *uno ictu*, at a blow, and the disease continues afterwards, although the cause be no longer applied; neither is it increased, diminished, or altered, by the farther application of its cause.”

The author therefore would not admit any affection of the general system to be a fever, which depends upon the constant application of the original cause.

“ Should a disease arise with frequency of the pulse, and other affections of the whole system, but of these general affections should not be such as are commonly found in fever; that is, if there should not be

be contraction of the vessels, depression of strength, affection of the stomach, &c. Although the disease should arise from a cause, the continuance of which is not necessary for the continuance of the disease, and the disease should gradually increase, remain for some time with a certain degree of violence, then gradually diminish and go off without any apparent cause, nevertheless it must not be considered as a fever."

The author further illustrates his meaning, and establishes the distinction, by examples of rheumatism, gout, erysipelas, and shows wherein they agree or disagree with his definition of fever. In fever, he observes, p. 26, "not only the body is affected, but the mind also."

In what manner the mind and body are connected, is not known. Although there seems little resemblance between muscular motion, or bodily exercise, and thought or exertion of mind, yet their effects are in many respects similar. We can no more think, than we can labour constantly. In both actions, rest after a certain time is required to recruit the strength of the parts, and enable them to renew their exertions. But this is not all. When the body is tired with excessive labour, the mind partakes of its debility, and is incapable of thinking with energy; and when the mind has been long and deeply employed in the solution of some difficult problem, the body becomes languid, and is as incapable of making any considerable exertion as if it had been wearied with muscular motion or labour.

It has been asked by some philosophers, whether the labour of the mind is not continued during sleep, or whether the soul does not always think. If intense thinking induces weariness, and the mind requires to be recruited by rest, before it can again exert itself with energy, it would seem that this question might be answered in the negative. But as we cannot be certain whether it is the mind that is weary, or only the nerves, or instruments it uses in thinking, this solution of it may not be satisfactory. After an ingenious disquisition on the powers or faculties of the mind, and on the effects of sleep, the author proceeds to describe the symptoms of fever in the order in which they usually appear.

"The first attack of fever begins," he observes, p. 60, "more frequently by much, between six o'clock in the morning and eight in the evening. In a continued fever, if the attack should be between six o'clock in the morning and eight in the evening of one day, a fresh exacerbation or sudden increase of the disease takes place between five and six in the evening of the succeeding day."

At whatever time the fever makes its first attack, the second paroxysm always commences in the evening, and the evening paroxysms,

paroxysms, through the whole course of the disease, are always the most violent and severe. The cause of this has never been assigned, but is probably the same, the author says, whatever that may be, which renders men, even in perfect health, liable to feverish attacks in the evening, which regularly go off in the morning. We shall not follow the author in his enumeration of the symptoms, but only notice the most prominent of them, or those concerning which we think his observations deserving particular attention.

Delirium, which is an early symptom, the author considers as an effect of fever, independent of any inflammation or any injury of the brain.

"He has caused the heads of many patients who have died with very great delirium in fever, to be opened," p. 98, "and never found any marks of suppuration. Most commonly the brain appeared exactly as it is found in persons who had no delirium."

In one species of delirium, where the face is florid, and the eyes inflamed, the vessels of the brain have been found surgid with blood.

Putrefaction of the juices only takes place, he says, where there is great depression of the strength, and is consequent to such depression, and therefore not the cause of fever, as has been supposed. This point is argued with great ingenuity.

Fever is either terminated by crisis; or, having attained its acmé, leaves the patient without any distinct crisis happening; which is the most common way in this country.

After describing the symptoms and progress of fever, the author considers the question, whether it be better to suffer a continued fever to take its course, only paying attention to the non-naturals, keeping the body soluble, and occasionally procuring sleep, or to attempt to check the progress of the fever, and extinguish it at its onset, or as early as possible, by some specific medicine.

If any medicines were known that would invariably and constantly extinguish fever, without materially injuring the constitution, the author makes no hesitation in saying, such medicines should be employed, but does not, in this part, say whether he conceives such a medicine to be known. He then proceeds to describe the regimen and methods proper to support the patient when the fever is permitted to take its course. Under each head of the choice of air, diet, warmth, rest, &c. we meet with much curious investigation and argument, in which great acuteness and knowledge are exhibited. The method of treating continued fever, when it is proposed to check its progress, and shorten its duration, is to be the subject of the second part of this Dissertation.

ART. VI. *Lovers' Vows, a Play, in Five Acts, performing at the Theatre Royal, Covent Garden. From the German of Kotzebue. By Mrs. Inchbald. Third Edition. 8vo. 2s. Robinsons. 1798.*

THE following is the outline of the plot and conduct of this very successful drama. A young man returning from the army on leave of absence, encounters his mother in the deepest distress and poverty. From her he learns, that in her early youth she had been seduced by a nobleman, the lord of the place and its domains, on promise of marriage, and that he was the produce of that connection. The youth, to obtain the means of providing for his mother's wants, begs the charity of passengers, and among others of his father, with whom, not knowing him, he expostulates for a larger proof of bounty; and, on being refused, attempts, in a moment of despair at his mother's situation, to rob him. He is seized by the attendants, and carried prisoner to the Baron's castle. He here discovers whom he had attacked; and, having obtained an interview discovers himself to his parent, whose feelings are properly awakened, and the catastrophe is what it ought to be—the Baron atones for his fault, by marrying her whom he had injured; and the gallant youth is recognized as his son.

The subordinate characters are, a daughter of the Baron's, who is in love with, and finally marries the chaplain in the family, who has acted as her tutor. A German beau, a rhyming butler, &c. &c.

The story bears a very strong resemblance to one of Florian's tales; so strong, indeed, that there is great probability that the German was indebted to the French writer. The tale to which we allude is Claudine. The very extraordinary, but well-deserved success of this piece, induces us to place it among the principal articles of our Review; and the following extract will afford a specimen of judicious management, and of good writing.

Baron [*haughtily to Frederick*]. I know, young man, you plead your mother's wants in excuse for an act of desperation: but powerful as this plea might be in palliation of a fault, it cannot extenuate a crime like yours.

Frederick. I have a plea for my conduct even more powerful than a mother's wants.

Baron. What's that?

Frederick. My father's cruelty.

Baron. You have a father then?

Frederick. I have, and a rich one—Nay, one that's reputed virtuous, and honourable. A great man, possessing estates and patronage in abundance;

abundance ; much esteemed at court, and beloved by his tenants ; kind, benevolent, honest, generous—

Baron. And with all those great qualities, abandons you ?

Frederick. He does, with all the qualities I mention.

Baron. Your father may do right ; a dissipated, desperate youth, whom kindness cannot draw from vicious habits, severity may.

Frederick. You are mistaken—My father does not discard me for my vices—He does not know me—has never seen me—He abandoned me, even before I was born.

Baron. What do you say ?

Frederick. The tears of my mother are all that I inherit from my father. Never has he protected me or supported me ; never protected her.

Baron. Why don't you apply to his relations ?

Frederick. They disown me, too—I am, they say, related to no one—All the world disclaim me, except my mother—and there again, I have to thank my father,

Baron. How so ?

Frederick. Because I am an illegitimate son.—My seduced mother has brought me up in patient misery. Industry enabled her to give me an education ; but the days of my youth commenced with hardship, sorrow, and danger.—My companions lived happy around me, and had a pleasing prospect in their view, while bread and water only were my food, and no hopes joined to sweeten it. But my father felt not that !

Baron [*to himself*]. He touches my heart.

Frederick. After five years absence from my mother, I returned this very day, and found her dying in the streets for want—Not even a hut to shelter her, or a pallet of straw—But my father, he feels not that ! He lives in a palace, sleeps on the softest down, enjoys all the luxuries of the great ; and when he dies, a funeral sermon will praise his great benevolence, his Christian charities.

Baron [*greatly agitated*]. What is your father's name ?

Frederick.—He took advantage of an innocent young woman, gained her affections by flattery and false promises ; gave life to an unfortunate being, who was on the point of murdering his father.

Baron [*studdering*]. Who is he ?

Frederick. Baron Wildenhaim.

[*The Baron's emotion expresses the sense of amazement, guilt, shame, and horror.*]

Frederick. In this house did you rob my mother of her honour ; and in this house I am a sacrifice for the crime. I am your prisoner—I will not be free—I am a robber—I give myself up.—You shall deliver me into the hands of justice—You shall accompany me to the spot of public execution. You shall hear in vain the chaplain's consolation and injunctions. You shall find how I, in despair, will, to the last moment, call for retribution on my father,

Baron. Stop ! Be pacified—

Frederick.—And when you turn your head from my extended corse, you will behold my weeping mother—Need I paint how her eyes will greet you ?

Baron. Desist—barbarian, savage, stop !

Enter

Enter Anhalt, alarmed.

Anhalt. What do I hear? What is this? Young man, I hope you have not made a second attempt.

Frederick. Yes; I have done what it was your place to do. I have made a *finest* tremble. [*points to the Baron, and exits.*]

Anhalt. What can this mean?—I do not comprehend—

Baron. He is my son!—He is my son!—Go, Anhalt,—advise me—help me—Go to the poor woman, his mother—He can show you the way—make haste—speed to protect her—

Anhalt. But what am I to—

Baron. Go.—Your heart will tell you how to act. [*Exit Anhalt.*]
[*Baron distractedly.*] Who am I? What am I? Mad—raving—no—I have a son—A son! The bravest—I will—I must—oh! [*with tenderness.*]
Why have I not embraced him yet? [*increasing his voice.*] Why not pressed him to my heart? Ah! see—[*looking after him.*]—He flies from the castle—Who's there? Where are my attendants? [*Enter two servants.*]
Follow him—bring the prisoner back.—But observe my command—treat him with respect—treat him as my son—and your master. [*Exit.*]
P. 71.

This scene, when we take into consideration that the Baron has, throughout the drama, displayed strong marks of compunction for the very crime with which he is reproached, and every symptom of a feeling and generally virtuous mind, is highly natural, as well as affecting. The effect on the audience is prodigious.

The character of Amelia is charmingly supported, and the author has exhibited great good sense, and a thorough knowledge of the taste of an English audience, in the alterations she has made from the German original. A very neat and well-written Preface, exhibits an apology for the liberties which have been taken. This seemed to us unnecessary; yet the following spirited apostrophe deserves attention.

“If, disdaining the construction of sentences, the precise decorum of the cold grammarian, she has caught the spirit of her author; if, in every altered scene, still adhering to the nice propriety of his meaning, and still keeping in view his great catastrophe, she has agitated her audience with all the various passions he depicted, the rigid criticism of the closet will be but a slender abatement of the pleasure resulting from the sanction of an applauding theatre.”

For our parts, who have both witnessed and contributed to “the sanction of the applauding theatre,” and carefully also perused this production in the closet, we think Mrs. Inchbald entitled to unreserved commendation; which, with sincere wishes for the continued exercise of her charming talents, we thus willingly communicate.

ART. VII. *An Historical and Political Delineation of the Administration of the French Republic, during the Year 1797 : and of the Causes which produced the Revolution of September the 4th, with its Consequences. By Sir Francis D'Ivernois. Vol. I. 8vo. 358 pp. 5s. Both French and English, sold by Elmsly, Debrett, Deboffe, &c. 1798.*

THE individual whose passions are violent, and who indulges all of them to the utmost, will waste in a few months the wealth or vigour which should supply the temperate expence of years ; and, in a short time, his sufferings will be proportioned to the unrestrained violence of his course. It is with states, in this respect, as with individuals : distempered exertion, when violent in its degree, and of any duration, destroys the vital stamina of the greatest nations.

The example of France, delineated by Sir Francis D'Ivernois in this work, is a lesson formed to inculcate this awful truth. We here see the contest of public profusion on one side, and the denial of supply* to the necessities of the state, until they had involved themselves in ruin on the other—of the usurious extortion of creditors, with the unprincipled breach of faith of senates ; and, in conclusion, the crisis when a system of taxes, rashly renounced, was to be restored* : and the convulsion of the legislative and executive powers, terminating in a victory of the army over the latter, which must ultimately establish its controul over both.

This is not the whole of the portrait here exhibited. If we cast our eyes over the face of the country, we behold every accommodation which the industry of ages had added to the gifts of nature rapidly perishing ; all the useful regulations for security lost ; poverty, sickness, and infancy, left to die unaided ; magistracy compelled by want to desert its duties ; agents of the public, and officers of an honourable class among the defenders of their country, to whom other resources than those of their profession are not permitted, deprived of the support due to them, and ending their lives by their own hands. Such is the first re-action of the crimes of France upon herself ; those crimes, which have destroyed so many of her inhabitants, and desolated and afflicted the continent.

We shall now proceed to give a methodized analysis of the important matter of this work. The documents on which

* We look here at the fact only, not the motive of the council.

Sir F. D'I. writes, are of the most authentic nature, and are every where clearly explained. They are the state papers of the Republic, and the best printed account of the debates of the Councils. To his former works on this subject, which brought down the present history to the end of 1796, we gave the praise it so eminently deserved; which we are happy in thus recalling to general attention.

He begins the present work by refuting a charge of error against a point he had formerly advanced. The paper money, or assignats and mandats, with which the French had supported the war, was a mere bubble. He had demonstrated it to be such, and drew the following consequences from it. That if the original grand alliance should not be dissolved until the credit of that paper was annihilated, all the resources of France failing, the republic must ultimately fall. His opponents have dropped the condition, and censured his prediction; as if this was not made by him a necessary circumstance to that event taking place.

The following is a summary of the embarrassment of the public accounts of the Republic, fully stated in this work. The charge of the war increased with such rapidity, that the plunder and tribute of the conquered provinces were unequal to the augmentation (p. 85). In the summer of 1797, its monthly expence was 65 millions, and the receipt 30 millions, leaving a deficit of 35 millions*. Placemen were multiplied beyond the extravagance of any former period: in the office of La Croix there were 80; though even in the time of the Duke of Choiseul, when its business was three times as much, the whole number was only 42†. Never prevailed a usury so devouring‡; the Minister of the Marine was obliged to give a premium of 240,000l. for the advance of 420,000l. for so short a period, as to exceed the rate of cent. per cent. We have the evidence of General Jourdan, to the peculations of the army accountants. He was nearly two years at the head of 150,000 men, on whose account the government paid for an equal number of rations a day, of which his army never received more than 10,000s. If the frauds of the state did not equal those of its servants, they stand without a parallel in the transactions of any other persons, both in violence and impolicy. The con-

* P. 131, Lauffat. When the authority we refer to is a speech in the councils, the name of the speaker is quoted: when the report of a commission, the letter R is added after the name of the reporter.

† P. 204, Barbé.

‡ P. 188, Gibert. *Usura vorax*, Lucan.

§ P. 194, Jourdan.

tractors for public services, had been paid by *Ordonnances**, or bills on the treasury; these were subjected to a severe liquidation, and, without consent of the holders, converted into inscriptions on the great book†. They had been only at 56 per cent. discount in the spring (p. 117) but prior to the time of their conversion, a rapid decline had commenced. As far as this extended, it was an act of national bankruptcy; but the year was distinguished by four others, two of which may be called partial, and two general (p. 353). The first, of the small assignats, which, circulating among the lower classes, were to be paid off in metallic money, on the coining of the bells (p. 27). This coinage was required for the current service‡, and they were paid off in mandats, the loss upon which was 99 per cent.; the second, that of the part of the forced loan (coupons) annually receivable in payment of the forced loan; the third, the annihilation of the mandats; and the fourth, the general bankruptcy; of which Sir F. D'I. purposed to treat in his next volume.

This scene of ruin was also embittered by the pangs of the disappointed hope, conceived from the stoppage of money payments at the Bank of England. The administrators of the republic, exulted in the prospect of a total fall of our credit and commerce in six months. Much hypocritical pity and sentiment was drivelled out, at the career of calamities upon which we were supposed to be entering; and Barbé, with the hypocrisy of the new blubbery philanthropy, bade sorrow's most copious showers descend, to see the scourge impending over "*a great nation*," the government of which wanted that firmness their own had possessed, to bear up against such calamities. For these mourners we have now abundance of consolation; and the view given in the councils of the event itself, is here finely refused. If the circumstances which have occurred since this author wrote, had not added new and more weighty arguments to those he has brought forward, we should have here stated them.

These annual accounts, hitherto published by Sir F. D'I. from which political philosophy may, in future, deduce many an useful chapter in the natural history of *radical reforms*, *pretended*

* There were also *Ordonnances*, on other securities, not so payable.

† P. 158, decreed July 30. *Monitor*.

‡ P. 27, *Vernier*.

§ When the levellers in the time of Charles began their attack on the three estates of the land, they demanded the Ecclesiastical Estate should be removed "*root and branch*." This metaphorical expression being

tended to be sought for by some few persons of distinction here. Of the greater consequences of this disorder in the finances which they preserve, it is but few we can select, and these must be passed in review with rapidity; yet the utility of the matter will not suffer us to omit some of its effects, on the interior of the country, and on its constitution of government.

We have here the representation made by the great cities, that the public roads are in such a state, that the traveller finds deep pits in them at every step; that the cities themselves are not lighted by night, and there are no watch or peace-officers, because they cannot be paid*; that the wolves have desolated several departments†. The troops, after the truce with the Emperor, were left to encounter with hunger and thirst, without clothes, without pay, and without medicines‡. We shall see this misery prepare them to bury their swords in the bowels of their country; and they state themselves to have subsisted by plunder (p. 219 and 23). What must have been the mortality among them, when the grossest intemperance at every opportunity, was joined to these privations? Yet the distress of the marine exceeded that of the army, "Desertion and misery were there ready to exercise their last ravages§."

If we look now to the cruel and criminal administration, we see the magistracy some dying of hunger, others abdicating through distress, and many of the remainder subsisting by the sale of injustice||. The Marechaussée, whose office it is to arrest criminals in the country, almost disbanded¶; and those to whose custody they are committed, for want of salary, suffering them to escape for the slightest bribe**.

But nothing can be more afflicting, than the fall of the institutions of public charity. At the revolution, the estates of the hospitals had been seized as national property; but an equivalent annuity had been promised to each; instead of which, they had obtained only a few small and temporary aids, totally inadequate to their support. Thus the hospital at Bourdeaux, the annual necessary support of which is estimated at 390,000*l.* had received of such succours, in eight months, terminating in

being polished and modernized, and the latter part or branch thus lopped off, is now applied against another estate, the Communes; but by this transformation, being left indefinite, it is equally hostile to all three, and their legitimate head the king.

* P. 183, *La Brouste*, December 31. † P. 48, *le Marchand*.
‡ P. 22 and 218, declaration of army of Hoche and others.
§ P. 21, Admiral Villaret Joyeuse. || P. 174, *Barbé*, Directory.
¶ P. 172, *Directory*. ** *Ibid.* Gauthier.

November, 1797, in effective money, 20,000*l.* only*. The two hospitals of Thoulouse, containing 3,000 patients, by the sale of all their moveables, have not been able to supply one half of their necessities†.

But this is not the most deplorable scene of calamity, in that charnel house, which once was France. There were many foundations for the support of illegitimate children, and others deserted by their parents; of these, seven eighths at this juncture perish in the year they are received. Of children so supported, the number remaining in December 1796, were about 55,000: if the proportion dying in the year be compared with the latter number, it will be evident that it does not equal half the annual admissions, or that they considerably exceed 110,000; and there is only one eighth of the children who attain one year; and the rate of mortality among them is such, that few or none will complete the second; some time before the end of which, the annual deaths will equal the number of children yearly received, and the number of survivors become nearly fixed; certainly not much exceeding 55,000.

Yet this does not include Paris, and many of its neighbouring departments, the children of which, abandoned by their parents, are carried thither. It is supposed in this work, that the loss shown above is hereby increased one half; if it were admitted to be one fourth only, the sum of both will form a loss of population never before equalled, from such a cause.

But to pass from these melancholy researches to our further account of the work. It is clearly discerned here, that such destitution of supplies for the service of the interior must, by its operation, increase itself, and go on further to annihilate the revenue from which every other service must be supported. From seventy-three departments of the Republic, no accounts of taxes could be delivered; "because, having no money to pay the persons employed, they could not be made out." The number of these tax-rolls, not delivered, amounted to 56,000§.

To proceed now to the effect of the disorder of the finances on the governing powers. No state, thus circumstanced, with the most thorough union of all its constituent parts, could remain

* P. 182, La Brousse. † P. 180. Péra. ‡ P. 164.
Johannot. § P. 167, Directory. And if we should admit that there is an error in the printed copy of the report of the special committee of accounts, quoted p. 200; and that (million) should be substituted for (milliard) there remains in the pay-office 20 millions of bills, against the state, which cannot be verified. Report of Paris of January 14, 1797.

long without an explosion; even the pay of the army was stopped for a considerable period, and they were suffered to remain without clothing. But the utmost opposition subsisted between the Councils and the Directory. While the latter was demanding new taxes, and declaring the emptiness of the treasury, the Councils maintained the sufficiency of the revenue to answer every call upon it. The machine of government was effectively at a stand, and the army was, in reality, the umpire between the parties. It must have been evident, from the beginning, that they would ultimately declare against the supposed authors of their sufferings, real or pretended. On the part of the Directory, their minds were inflamed with representations, that by the refusal of taxes it was evidently the plan of the majority of the Councils, to leave them to perish in famine and nakedness. To this was added the charge of royalism; and the more effectual accusation, that by the restoration of the property of some descriptions of emigrants, the fund from which the myriad was to be made up, the donative promised to them at the general peace, would be alienated. Against this it was necessary for the Councils to prove to the armies, that the Directory were the immediate authors of all their sufferings, by the most incontrovertible authorities. They should have shown to a demonstration the sufficiency of the revenue, and that the peculation and rapacity of them and their creatures were the cause of all their grievances. Thus the armies might have been rendered neutral, or even engaged in their favour, or the spirit of the nation roused; and the national guards, when called upon, have taken arms in their defence.

No measures to this purpose were taken by the leaders of the Councils, until their cause was utterly lost. Buonaparte, gained by the Directory, and, besides, goaded on by resentment for a personal attack upon him by its opponents, procured a declaration from his victorious army in its favour. The example was followed by the rest, except that of Pichegru. The majority in the Councils had nothing to oppose to a military force, marching for their destruction, except posts set in the great roads, at a certain distance from the seat of their deliberations, directing them to *stop there*, and a few trim sentences; one of which, for its *pathos* and *justice*, we shall transcribe. "Citizen soldiers; the legislative body is the citadel of the constitution; you would die in its defence, and would you march to lay siege to it?"

But

* F. 23, Thibaudeau. The merits of the parties is not entered into here; the leaders of the councils might with to effect much good, ~~the~~

But the reign of sentiments and *tirades* was passed, with that of paper money. Hoche advanced; and, inspired by the genius, or copying the example of Colonel Pride, "purified" the Council of Five Hundred, of the Ancients, and the Directory.

Such is the analysis of Sir F. D'I.'s account of the revolution of September, 1797; (in the gipsy jargon, *Fruftidor*) and we agree with him, that the leading proximate cause is to be found in the dilapidation of the finances of France. We have confined ourselves to his views of it, and shall go no further, but simply to remark, that he does not seem adequately to have laid open what we may call the primary cause of this event; the motive, or principle of opposition of the majority of the Councils, against that of the Directory.

An account is added of many laws that were passed immediately after this memorable transaction, to confirm the power in the hands which had now seized it. The spirit of most of them is revolutionary, and the government is become in a great measure provisional. A reign of terror is restored, but more systematized; and with a delusive appearance of some mitigations, by which its authors hope, probably in vain, to obtain a longer submission to it.

We cannot avoid making some further reflections on the very interesting matter we find in this work. We have of late seen three events, each of which may be called a revolution in the *soi-disant* republic, effected by an armed force in the capital; they are therefore frequently and periodically incident to its nature, and the present manners of the people. The two first were chiefly brought about by an armed populace: at length the regular professors of arms have interfered, to take this business out of the hands of these unskilful practitioners, and the government is become *Prætorian*.

The probable consequences of that fatal promise to the army, of a donative at the return of peace, of one milliard, or 41½

the ends of the majority were certainly bad; but acts that undermine power which would be beneficially exerted, and betray it to those who will use it for bad ends, are censurable, even in the possessors of power themselves. To us it appears, that the majority in the councils was divided into parties having many different ends; but one measure was necessary to the attainment of each to pull down the power of the Directory. In this they all concurred; it was a preparatory measure to the discordant objects of all. This gave them a false appearance of union. The sections of the party had their ultimate ends, but they were contrary to each other, and as a whole had none in common. They are considered here as a whole.

U n 2

millions

millions sterling, deserves also consideration, as threatening the continuance of miseries, and likely to prolong the disturbed state of Europe. This writer in one place seems to admit, that there exists a possibility, that the expectation of it may die away (p. 128). That its basis is not very solid, the following circumstances prove. On a suspicion entertained, that the fund from which it was to be paid, was in danger of being diminished*; the cry of the army of Hoche, marching "to besiege the citadel of the constitution" was, "What must become of the milliard promised with so much solemnity when our services were wanted?" If a general peace be made, and the five coparceners of the dictatorship shall not be able to discharge this donative, will they not march with equal hostility to raze the palace of the Directory? Their lives will pay the forfeit of the second false hope held out to the army, to induce them to effect the revolution of *Frustrator*. Until this sum be discharged, they will not suffer themselves to be disbanded; nor, when returned into the interior on a peace, will they be kept on foot without maintenance: hence that return was an object of terror to the Directory, even before the last revolution. Of this there is the most direct proof, attended with some curious circumstances; we have Gibert accusing himself before the Upper Council (in reply to a personal charge of the Directory against him) of consenting to an "infamous operation;" an issue to them of 100 millions secret service money, under the lying pretext, that with such a supply they would be able to procure a peace. The advance was made to them; but when the effect of their promise was demanded, the Directory "seemed to fear the return of the armies," and being pressed with the consequence, "that this was to determine that they should perish in an enemy's country," they seemed fully to admit it, by asking, "who should support them?" This is a rock on which the organized anarchy may probably split; and happier would it be for that afflicted land which it now lays waste, if it did not alike threaten its best remaining hope with a wreck also.

After this revolution, the Councils returned, in some measure, to the old system of taxation†. In the two preceding years, endeavours had been used in vain to meet the public exigencies by the forced loan, and the issue of *mandats*, and *ordonnances*. There always appeared considerable danger, if

* P. 226, Bentabolle. † P. 126, Gibert. ‡ P. 306. The particular taxes are not mentioned, but if they go no further than the propositions of Gibert, May 26, it confirms what is said above; the estimate of the taxes granted was 100 millions.

ever monarchy should be restored in France, at the very commencement of so happy an event, from the reimposition of any great part of the old system of taxes; a measure, notwithstanding, of absolute necessity. If the new imposts be vigorously persisted in, and pre-established, the unpopularity of the return of these taxes and monarchy together will be avoided. It is a future danger that may be looked upon as prevented, by the crime of September 4; which will then appear to have providentially secured, in one great point, the repose of the restored lawful government.

Sir F. D'Ivernois informs us likewise, that there are other means by which that event, which seemed to depress, has actually given considerable strength to the cause of royalty, even at present. That all the partizans of the transported members of the Councils are become royalists; and that doubtless there were numbers of republicans in France, whom the experience of its calamities would wean from their attachment to that form of government, but nothing else; being so wedded to it, that they would expect happiness from it in form after form, until no new experiment remained to be made. These must now become converts to the royal cause, among the partizans of which were before numbered the magistracy; the mercantile interest; the body of the lawyers, so instrumental in the first revolution; the middle class; and, we borrow the term and the fact from a legislator of that country, which has consecrated the principle of equality, the *PLEBEIANS*.*

We expect, with much avidity, the second part of this history of the finances for 1797; and are confident, that in this, we only participate in the desires of all those who have reflected much upon this interesting subject. At the same time, we must express our regret on being informed, that we are to expect no more of these excellent annual repositories of the political oeconomy of the anarchical Republic; our hope must therefore be directed to a continuation of the work by some other pen; and we shall be happy to find it such a one, that we shall be able justly to preface our account of it, by saying,

*Primo avulso, non deficit alter
Aureus; et simili frondesca virga metallo.*

* P. 333, Gayvetmon.

ART. VIII. *Walsingham, or the Pupil of Nature; a Domestic Story.* By Mary Robinson, Author of *Angelina*, *Hubert de Sevrac*, *The Widow*, *Vincenza*, &c. &c. &c. In Four Vols. 12mo. 16s. Longman. 1797.

THIS novel is of a singular kind, in respect to its moral, fable, character, and catastrophe. We shall first remark upon some prominent parts of it, and then characterize the work in general. Whatever the general moral of this piece may be, there are many particular sentiments, which may be impressed upon the minds of female readers with great advantage to them. Of which kind is the following :

" There is no situation in life more completely wretched than that of a faded beauty, who, in the hours of universal conquest, neglected that cultivation of mind which can enliven the winter of age, and present a pleasing substitute for the most gratifying pursuits." Vol. i, p. 42.

Lord Chesterfield meets with no quarter. The superficial politeness which he teaches, is very strongly satirized.

" The precepts of Chesterfield are generally either useless or criminal. With respect to the manners of a well-bred man, he inculcates nothing more than every well-bred man already practises. As to his system of gallantry, I deem it the most profligate, unprincipled, and prejudicial that ever disgraced the republic of letters. A man, completely fashioned after the model of Chesterfield, must be the bane of society ; a mere fluttering painted fly, that buzzes in the atmosphere of a court, to dazzle with its gaudy colours, and to sting the unsuspecting fool, who is fascinated by its beauty. No ; man only can be polished by woman." Vol. i, p. 152.

At p. 305, some very hazardous advice is given, in which we do not concur : " To become the idolator of virtue, let the pupil of nature *explore the labyrinths of vice*. They need only be known, to be shunned and detested." This is fine theory, but desperate practice.

" I found a large circle of both sexes, seated round a table : men intent on the turn of a card, which was destined either to ruin themselves or their intimate associates ; and women, sacrificing all the graces of mind and person, wholly absorbed in the vortex of dissipation. I cannot describe the disgust which I felt, while I contemplated features, decked with the bloom of youth, yet distorted by internal emotions ! Bosoms which nature formed for the abodes of gentleness and virtue, burning with rage, and panting with disappointment ! Eyes, darting forth the lightnings of despair ; and lips, pallid with the apprehension of impending ruin ! Is this, what men call

call the world? thought I. Are these the votaries of pleasure, the children of luxurious life?" Vol. ii, p. 92.

That *gaming* can transform lovely women into a sort of *fiends*, we readily believe; but in the picture here drawn of female gamblers, in high life, they are represented rather as basely *vulgar* and *unfeeling wretches*, even jesting over a man in the agonies of death. This we hope is overcharging a character, abominable enough, in its real form, to excite the abhorrence which is thus justly expressed.

"The traveller who encounters the highway robber—the libertine who waxes his life and fortune with the avowed wanton, is less exposed to peril than the dupe who commits himself to the destructive vortex of a faro table; where beauty is held up as a lure to enthrall the senses, while avarice and fraud take advantage of its fascinations, and every moral virtue trembles at its triumphs." Vol. ii, p. 124.

And, again;

"My reflection naturally turned towards the gaming-table; the vortex of destruction, the nursery of vice, the school of licentiousness; and I shudder to remember that a propensity which degrades even a masculine education, should be so unblushingly adopted and exercised by those lovely and once feminine beings in whom profligacy appears with tenfold deformity." Vol. iii, p. 189.

We are concerned to find a writer of undoubted sensibility, after all that has passed, vehemently inveighing against the late court of France. (p. 261) Such suffrings should obliterate errors; and if supereminence in goodness, and in misfortunes, be entitled to veneration and pity, can any feeling mind withhold them from the august head of that court? Might not a *female* censurer have recollected also, and extolled, the pious and heroic fortitude of the murdered "aunt to the king," that magnanimous answer to her miscreant judges? A little sympathy bestowed here, would have been quite as natural as that which is lavished upon a *snow-drop*. (vol. i, p. 59) As to "virtue being roused," (meaning in the French revolutionists) we shall only say, may such virtue be monopolized by them!

The services of Rousseau and Voltaire, in delivering the earth from the shackles of tyranny and superstition, are not much acknowledged "in this little island," p. 264; which is "exempt (as the author words it) from the rest of the habitable globe;" its inhabitants choosing to "*vegetate in the glooms of ignorance*," (if any one can tell what this means, for, we understand, that *light* is a grand promoter of vegetation) rather than to be *animated* by that "philosophy, which beams far and wide on (some) other nations." When will authors, possessing

possessing any shadow of credit, cease to surfeit us with such disgusting and depraved absurdities?

The verses, which are plentifully interspersed, are very superior to those with which novel-writers usually treat us. Many of them show taste and sensibility; but their general fault is, that (like the style of the prose) they abound with *prettinesses*, and minute, misplaced descriptions; penned sometimes by persons whose hearts are bursting with *grief*. The sonnet to *Night* begins thus:

" 'Tis Night's dull reign!—The silver-mantled queen
Sails on her ether throne through boundless air;
Her paly lamp, which trembles o'er the scene,
Begets the sullen sadness of despair." Vol. iv, p. 239.

Walsingham, the hero of the piece, is styled "the pupil of nature." But he describes himself more justly, as "the dupe of his own passions, an alien from reason, and the slave of early impressions." He adds indeed, somewhat inconsistently, "and the pupil of resistless nature." Vol. iii, p. 271. The truth is, that he never attempts to resist *what he calls nature*; but yields to every impulse of passion, and at each adverse turn of fortune, prepares to shoot or stab himself.

A strong (and as it seems reciprocal) partiality for Isabella, is the ground of this hero's greatest sufferings; and, if the story is to have a happy termination, every reader will expect that the final event must be *their union*. But, lo! *another hero*, who has influenced the fortunes of Walsingham quite through the piece, who has been his formidable *rival*, and his *antagonist* almost to destruction, appears to have done all this for *love of him*, and proves to be, not a *man*, but a most charming *woman*! This is certainly *surprising*, whatever else it may be. In a short time, *she* has "fashioned her manners to the graces of her sex"; Walsingham transfers to *her* his deep-rooted regard for Isabella; they are happily united; and the latter is hastily given to a wild young man of fashion, by a match just as suitable as that of Lady Arabella with Mr. Hanbury. Such *caricatures* as Lord Kencarth and Doctor Pimpernel, are not worth noticing.

The obvious lesson from this whole story is, that uncontrolled passion involves men in misfortune and misery; but the author has chosen to conclude it, by a panegyric upon the "illustrious pupils of *genius, truth, and nature*!"

ART. IX. *Catalogue of Stars, taken from Mr. Flamsteed's Observations, contained in the Second Volume of the Historia Cœlestis, and not inserted in the British Catalogue. With an Index, to point out every Observation in that Volume, belonging to the Stars of the British Catalogue. To which is added, a Collection of Errata that should be noticed in the same Volume. By Carolina Herschel. With introductory and explanatory Remarks to each of them. By William Herschel, LL. D. F. R. S. Published by Order, and at the Expence, of the Royal Society. Folio. 136 pp. 8s. 6d. Elnsly. 1798.*

THIS work, as appears by the title, consists of three parts; the two first of which had already been announced by Dr. Herschel, in his third catalogue of the comparative brightness of the stars*. He there says, that his sister, at his request, and according to a plan laid down by him, had undertaken, and completed, an index to the observations of those stars in the second volume of the *Historia Cœlestis*, which served as a foundation for the British Catalogue. He also says, that she had then nearly finished a catalogue of stars, observed by Flamsteed, but overlooked by those who formed the British Catalogue.

The first part of the work before us, is the above-mentioned catalogue of omitted stars. It contains between 500 and 600 stars; of which number, 371 have been completely observed; 35 have some uncertainty, either in their right ascension, or in their polar distance, or in both; 86 have their R A only ascertained by limits, but have their P D complete; 13 have their R A complete, but their P D is only pointed out by estimation, or left undetermined; 49 are without R A or P D, but so pointed out, that they may easily be found; lastly, there are 7 multiple stars, and clusters of stars. In all 561.

At the end of the catalogue are four pages of notes, consisting of remarks on such stars as required any particular notice. Besides other uses, they serve to show, that several of the omitted stars have been observed by other astronomers, since the British Catalogue was made; also to point out such stars as will account for the insertion of some in the British Catalogue which were not observed by Flamsteed, and which indeed appear to have no existence.

* Printed in the Philosophical Transactions for the year 1797.
p. 293.

The Index to Flamsteed's observations (in the second volume of the *Historia Cœlestis*) of the stars inserted in the British Catalogue, forms the second part of the work. Dr. Herschel, in the third catalogue of comparative brightness, already mentioned, demonstrates the great utility, or rather the indispensable necessity of such an Index. By it is shown, that 111 stars, inserted in the British Catalogue, were never observed by Flamsteed; a circumstance, which explains why so many stars seem to have been lost; that 39, of the same Catalogue, want considerable corrections (sometimes of several degrees) either in R A or P D; that 54 others, in the *Atlas Cœlestis*, also want corrections, many of them likewise of several degrees; and that 42 stars are set down under two names, in different constellations, and must consequently be reduced to 21.

The third part consists of errata in the second volume of the *Historia Cœlestis*. These errata are of various kinds; sometimes one letter is used for another; more frequently, the name of one constellation is used for another; there are also many errors in the figures, particularly in the quantity of degrees, minutes, and seconds. The errata, altogether, occupy 28 pages. Typographical errors, which could not lead to any mistake, such as bad spelling, &c. are not noticed.

From the description in the *Philosophical Transactions*, (*lococitato*) of the manner in which this work was conducted, it is sufficiently evident, that great patience and industry, at least, were necessary to the accomplishment of it. Its utility to astronomers is too obvious to require any demonstration from us; and the accuracy of Dr. Herschel, and that of his sister, are too well known to leave any doubt, that a work which has had the benefit of their joint assistance, can possibly be otherwise than well executed.

ART. X. *Copies of Original Letters from the Army of General Bonaparte in Egypt, intercepted by the Fleet under the Command of Admiral Lord Nelson. With an English Translation.* 8vo. 248 pp. 4s. 6d. Wright, 169, Piccadilly. 1798.

NO speedy change of circumstances can weaken the interest immediately attached to these intercepted Letters. Not even the sudden catastrophe, which terminated the ill-
successful

successful career of Bonaparte* (should it prove true) will diminish the desire of every reasonable man to learn, which here he may by documents irrefragable, how well he merited the severest fate. Even they whose acknowledged idol he has been, ever since he has appeared likely to be formidable to their country, may here learn to moderate the excess of their grief for his failing to destroy us; and look for some other hero, who to the courage of a conqueror may add a few more of the virtues of a man. To vouch for the authenticity of a publication, understood to be issued under the faith of our government, must be superfluous. *The art of political lying* has not yet crossed the Straights, from Calais to Dover; and we trust that pass will be as impervious to the principles as to the armies of the French government. The few beings who would have the audacity to reject this authority, would also, should we assert that we have seen the originals, have the candour to suspect us of doing, what we would sooner perish than commit; that is, of disguising the truth to serve a political purpose. But, to remove all ground for cavil, the original Letters, which are carefully preserved, will, we have some reason to hope, be deposited, in due time, in the British Museum.

These Letters, as here published, are accompanied by an Introduction and notes, admirably calculated to expose the misrepresentations of the French, and of their few but indefatigable friends in Britain. The justification of the step taken in publishing letters so obtained, is so fully and sensibly given in the opening of this Introduction, that we shall doubtless gratify a large majority of our readers by laying it before them.

“ The correspondence, of which the following Letters make a part, was intercepted at different periods, by the Turkish and English ships of war. It consists of Official and Private Letters, whose contents, perhaps, like those of a thousand others, which have, at various times, fallen into the hands of our cruizers, would have remained a secret to all but government, had not the French, by holding out, first, a false account of the motive of this famous expedition, and then, by spreading the most absurd and exaggerated accounts of its success, rendered it necessary to undeceive Europe, (still trembling at the tale) by proving from their own statements, that what began in wickedness and fraud, was likely to terminate in wretchedness and despair.

“ The publication being thus determined upon, the next step was to make such a selection from the voluminous correspondence in the hands

* He used to be *Bonaparte*, but he writes himself *Bonaparte* in these Letters. So *Dumourier* came out *Dumourien*, after a space of many months.

of government, as, without gratifying an idle curiosity, or indulging a prurient inclination for scandal and intrigue, should yet leave nothing to be desired with respect to the real situation of the army in Egypt; its views and successes; its miseries and disappointments. For this purpose, every thing that was not illustrative of one or other of those objects was suppressed: all private Letters, unless intimately connected with the end in view, were passed over; and even those of Bonaparte (which have been so shamefully misrepresented, and commented upon by those servid champions of decency, the Opposition Writers*) though not strictly and absolutely private, yet containing nothing that could materially interest or inform the public, were laid aside with the rest. We trust that we have not admitted any thing that can raise a blush on the cheek of our readers, either for themselves or for us." P. i.

The writer of the Introduction then proceeds to state the motives of the Egyptian expedition; which he explains, we believe with entire truth, to have been chiefly the necessity pressing upon the Directory of *disposing* of an army, whose authorized demands they could not satisfy. For a further illustration of which subject, turn back to our preceding article on D'Ivernois.

* "The following paragraphs are taken from the *Morning Chronicle*. We might have produced a hundred more of the same kind, but these we think will be sufficient to convince the reader of the "superior delicacy" of that paper. When he has considered them well, he will not be disinclined, perhaps, to felicitate the French ladies, on the letters of their lovers and friends having luckily escaped such "delicate" and honourable hands!

* It is not very creditable to the generosity of office, that the private letters from Bonaparte and his army to their friends in France, which were intercepted, should be published. It derogates from the character of a nation, to descend to such gossiping. One of these letters is from Bonaparte to his brother, complaining of the profligacy of his wife; another from young Beauharnois, expressing his hopes that his dear *Mamma* is not so wicked as she is represented! Such are the precious secrets which, to breed mischief in private families, are to be published in French and English! [Nov. 24.]

* After the public have been so long agitated with anxiety and speculation respecting Bonaparte and his expedition, they are at length to be gratified with the scandal and intrigue of which the private letters from the General and his officers are full. [Nov. 25.]

* The *private* correspondence of Bonaparte's officers, is a curious specimen of *public* intelligence. It reminds us of the weak and impolitic Ministry who persecuted Wilkes. When their fund of malice was nearly exhausted, they gave out that he had written an *indecent poem*, which certainly has as much to do with the question of *general warrants*, as Madame Bonaparte's *chastity* has to do with her husband's expedition through Egypt! [Nov. 26.]

"Hence

" Hence arose the expedition to Egypt. The plunder of the Venetian docks and arsenals had fortunately furnished them with a vast quantity of naval stores, and with several ships of the line, frigates, &c. With the former, they fitted out the vessels in the port of Toulon; and they collected transports from every quarter. While these preparations were going on, the cupidity and ardour of the troops were artfully inflamed by ambiguous hints of an expedition that was to eclipse, in immediate advantages, the boasted conquest of Cortes and Pizarro.

" To promote the farce (for such we are persuaded it was) artists of all kinds, chymists, botanists, members of the pyro-technical school in prodigious numbers, and we know not what quantities of people calling themselves *Savants*, were collected from every part of France, and driven to Toulon in shoals.—When all these were safely embarked, Bonaparte assembled the Italian army (amounting to 22,000 men) and after gravely promising them on his honour, which he observed had ever been sacred, that they should each receive on their return money enough to purchase six acres and a half of good land, took them on board, and tranquilly proceeded to bury them all in Egypt.

" On his route he collected near 20,000 more of the army of Italy—sturdy beggars, who might have disquieted the Directory if they had been suffered to remain in Europe, and who will now contribute, with their fortunate comrades, to fatten the vultures of Grand Cairo.

" We shall not stop to notice the capture, as it is called, of Malta*, nor the various gambols that were played by this-unwieldy armament in the Mediterranean, but having conducted it in safety to Alexandria, return to make a few miscellaneous observations on its outset, supposed destination, &c.

" The first circumstance that strikes us, is the extreme ignorance of the French, with regard to the country they were going to desolate and destroy. They had had connections with its ports for ages, and yet they appear to have known no more of its interior, than the inhabitants of the moon. This want of knowledge was universal—from the Commander in Chief to the meanest soldier in the army, all was darkness, and blind confidence in the blindest of guides!

" The "*Savants*" were not a whit better informed than the rest—like Phaëton,

" They hop'd, perhaps, to meet with pleasing woods,
And stately fanes, and cities fill'd with Gods:—"

* " That event had been secured before Bonaparte left Toulon, by the intrigues and largesses of Poussielgue: these have been since laid open by the Bailli Teignie, and others; and made the subject of a formal accusation against the Grand Master Homspech, by the Knights who have taken refuge in Germany, Russia, &c.

† " In a letter of Bonaparte's to the Directory, dated July 6th, he says, " this country is any thing but what travellers and story-tellers represent it to be."

and

and like him too, we imagine, they have found a general conflagration, and a river!

"Now we have mentioned these men, it may not be amiss to inquire into the services the general literature of Europe is likely to derive from their exertions; services, be it remembered, for which the Directory, who forced them on board, have already received the felicitation of all the "friends of liberty."

"The inquiry will be short. All the mention we find of them, from the hour of their embarkation to the present, is contained in Berthier's letter to the Consuls of the Roman Republic. "The *Souven* Monge, Bertolet, Bourienne, &c." says he, "fought with the greatest courage; they did not quit the General's side during any part of the action, and they proved by their exertions, that in combatting *THE ENEMIES OF THEIR COUNTRY*", every Frenchman is a soldier," &c.

"Thus we find, that the "enlightened geniuses of the eighteenth century," who were to explore the construction of the Pyramids, to dive into the Catacombs, to wind through the mazes of the sacred labyrinth, to dig up the mystic volumes of Hermes, and, in a word, to roam "with free foot" from the Cataracts to the seven mouths of the Nile: were become mere men of blood, obliged to cling to the troops for protection, and unable to advance a single step to the right or left, beyond the reach of the musquetry or cannon of the army!

"But the imbecillity displayed in the outset of this strange expedition, is not more extraordinary than the obstinacy with which it has been held up to the admiration of Europe. Either ignorance, or fear, or Jacobinism, has been always at hand—to suggest a greatness of plan, where there was little, in fact, but blind hazard—to whisper a combination of means amidst the want of every thing, and to promise infallible success to men whose every step was attended with destruction and despair!

"While the army was yet on its way to the place of its destination, the old plans of the French government were in every mouth; and the wisdom was loudly applauded which was to attach the Beys to the invader, crush the dominion of the Porte, and secure the country for ever to the "Great Nation."

"Bonaparte arrives, and reverses the whole scheme. The Beys are now to be crushed, because they alone have the power to resist: and the sovereignty of Constantinople is to be upheld, because it is inefficient. The applause was louder than before! "Better and better still," cried the sagacious discoverers of deep design in all the

"The cant of the French is ever more shocking than their enormities. They invade a friendly country, which they wantonly devote to pillage and devastation; and the leaders of this ferocious horde of savages have the detestable insolence to call the unoffending people, whom they are exterminating for the crime of endeavouring to protect their lives and properties, and who are utterly and alike ignorant of them and their sanguinary employers, "*THE ENEMIES OF FRANCE*."

bedlam

bedlam tricks of France; "that country will gain more this way than t'other—" *Vive la République!*"

"Again, when it was found that no impressions but those of hatred and hostility, were made on the natives of Egypt, and that the conqueror barely held the ground on which his army halted, we were suddenly made acquainted with another and a greater scheme; which we were seriously assured was the only genuine one, and which could not fail of success! What was not done in Egypt, might be done in Persia. The inhabitants of the southern coasts of that country were opportunely discovered to have the primitive religion of the Arabs, before it was infected with Mahometanism; and with them, "through the means of their venerable Patriarch," Bonaparte, it was known, had long since been in correspondence. The clue of the mighty maze which had so much puzzled mankind, was at length discovered! Arabia was to be restored to liberty and happiness, by the arms of France, acting on one side of it, and by these innumerable and faithful auxiliaries, on the other. The rest was plain enough. Arabia being once organized, and in possession of a Directory and two Councils, a free passage to India was afforded, of course, through Mekran, the region of friends and philosophers, and the "tyrant of the sea," driven with disgrace from Calcutta!

"It would be superfluous to send our readers to any author of credit, for a relation of all this absurdity; which yet has been dwelt on, by the friends of France, with complacency and delight—but if they should happen to look into Niebuh, they will find, that there really are some wild Arabs, a poor, and miserable, and half-naked people, who wander up and down the coasts of Arabia Proper, and live on putrid fish! These Ichthyophagi are the enlightened savages who, in conjunction with Bonaparte, are to diffuse the knowledge of liberty and virtue through the Eastern world!" P. v.

Since it has been the cant of those who wish to deceive and betray their country, that Bonaparte was a perfect hero, this writer very properly employs some time in illustrating his real character. After ridiculing his legislative skill, in establishing a Directory and two Councils in all places, and under all circumstances, he proceeds to his moral qualities.

"From the legislative pretensions of Bonaparte, we might now descend to the consideration of the fraud, and hypocrisy, and blasphemy, and impiety, and cruelty, and injustice, which he has never ceased to display since the commencement of this famous expedition; but we are better pleased to leave them to the faithful page of the historian, which we are satisfied will one day hold them up to the just contempt and execration of all mankind.

"We shall indulge ourselves, however, with an observation or two on his cruelty. We select this vice, because Bonaparte has been celebrated by the ignorant and malevolent of this country, for nothing so much as for his humanity! One man, of whom we should say, if we could for a moment believe in the metempsychosis, that the spirit of Bishop Bonner had taken full possession, has had the consummate folly

to affirm, that Bonaparte, "his consolation and his triumph," preferred the preservation of one citizen, to the melancholy glory of a thousand victories.

"Where did this scribbler, who from his study insults the feelings of his countrymen, and boasts of his satisfaction in the success of their enemies, collect his proofs of the tender concern of Bonaparte for the life of a Citizen? Was it at the bridge of Lodi, where he sacrificed six thousand of them to the vanity of forcing a pass which he might have turned without the loss of a man? Was it —? but why multiply questions, when there is not, perhaps, a reader of a common newspaper in Europe (this pestilent foe to the honour of his country excepted), who does not know that Bonaparte has wantonly spilt more blood than any Attila of ancient or modern times, who, with the same means, has had merely the same ends to effect." P. xiv.

Of the whole Introduction, we cannot hesitate to say, that it is written with as much spirit, sagacity, and judgment, as could be infused into such a composition.

The Notes are equally commendable. They call attention to the points most important to be noticed; and explain such matters as common readers might not perhaps entirely comprehend. The Letters themselves are thirty-two in number, and contain undoubtedly as much curious matter as can well be comprehended in that space. Among these it is difficult to select one; but as the public attention is still unavoidably attracted to every thing that can throw light on the glorious victory of Lord Nelson, we shall insert the description of that action given by Rear Admiral Ganteaume, who was in the *l'Orient*, and escaped from her when on fire. In each instance the French original is first given, and then the English translation, illustrated with notes. We shall extract the latter.

Alexandria, August 23rd.

Rear Admiral GANTEAUME*, to General BRUIX, Minister of the Marine, and of the Colonies.

Citizen Minister,

Obliged to give you an account of the most fatal of disasters, it is with piercing and heart-felt sorrow, that I acquit myself of this melancholy part of my duty.

"Eleven

* "Our last was from a spectator on shore. We now present our readers (and we do it with great satisfaction) with a narrative of the engagement, from one who was an actor in it; from one who might have said with *Aeneas*,

— *quæque ipse miserrima vidi,
Et quorum pars magna fui!*

from Ganteaume, in short, Rear Admiral of the fleet, who was on board

"Eleven sail of the line taken, burnt, and lost for France, our best officers killed or wounded, the coasts of our new colony laid open to the invasion of the enemy; such are the dreadful results of an engagement which took place on the night of the 1st instant, between our fleet and that of the English under the command of Admiral Nelson.

"From the experience which you have had, Citizen Minister, in our ports during the course of this war, it will doubtless be easy for you to judge, whether the crews of a fleet so hastily fitted out as ours, could be reasonably expected to be well composed; and whether we could hope to find amongst men collected at random as it were, almost at the very instant of our departure, able mariners, and skilful and experienced cannoners. The favourable season, however, the care and attention of the officers, and, perhaps, a certain portion of good luck, seconded the progress of the fleet so effectually, that, together with its convoy, it reached the coast of Egypt without any accident whatever.

"The Admiral has most assuredly informed you that on our arrival at Alexandria, we learned that an English squadron of 14 sail had been there three days before us. It would have been the most prudent step perhaps, to have quitted the coast the moment the descent had been effected; but the Admiral, who waited for the orders of the Commander

board the *POrient* during the action—which he describes with the precision of a seaman, and the feelings of a patriot.

"These dispatches are addressed to Bruix. They are confidential, and such as would certainly have never transpired, but for the event which threw them into our hands. If this correspondence reach the minister of marine (which we have no doubt but it will) he may still profit by it. We have given it with fidelity.

"We think these two papers give the fullest account of the glorious event of the first of August, that has yet appeared. It should be observed, however, that the letters from our fleet were all on board the *Leander*; and, as we have already observed, were destroyed by her gallant commander, previous to striking.—We are not, indeed, without a portion of information on the subject; but still it is flattering to see a brave and able officer, (for such Ganteaume is,) bearing testimony in his official documents, to the superior courage and skill of our intrepid countrymen."

"If we wanted any additional proofs of the falsehoods of Bonaparte, this paper would furnish it. To injure the reputation of Bruix, and to insult his ashes, he asserts, as we have already seen (No. III.), that this unfortunate Admiral detained the fleet on the coast of Egypt contrary to his wishes; and here we have Ganteaume, Commander in Chief of all the French Naval forces in Egypt, expressly declaring, in direct contradiction to the assertion, that Bruix only remained on the coast because Bonaparte would not permit him to depart!

"We have given our opinion on this subject (No. III.), and probably said more than enough there to convince the blindest of Bonaparte's

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mander in Chief (whose army naturally derived a great degree of confidence from the presence of the Squadron) did not think himself justified in quitting the coast, but took, on the contrary, a strong position in the anchoring ground of Bequiers.

This road by its proximity to Rosetta, enabled him to receive on board the necessary supplies for the fleet; and to replace, though with infinite risks and pains, some part of the water that was daily consumed on board. It was therefore, unfortunately determined to moor the fleet in one line, in an open situation, and which could not be protected from the shore.

"Fatal intelligence received from time to time by neutral vessels, announced the return of the enemy's squadron. It had been seen off the Isle of Candia, steering to the westward. The conduct of this fleet, which, though superior to ours, had not waited for us before Alexandria, but made sail to the west, while we were effecting our disembarkation, which it might easily have thwarted or prevented, unhappily confirmed us in the opinion that it had no orders to attack us, and produced a boundless and fatal security.

"On the 21st of July, however, two of the enemy's frigates reconnoitred us, and on the 31st, about two in the afternoon, their whole

part's admirers, that he is deficient in one quality at least, of a great man; but we could not resist the temptation of making "himself doubly sure," and establishing his character beyond all possibility of future doubt, by the unsuspected evidence of his warmest friend.

"Sir John Sinclair, who has taken his ideas of ships in the Mediterranean from flies in a milk-pot, ducks in a pond, or gill-nets and streamers in a garden canal, very properly reprehends Mr. Pitt for not having made the victory more complete, by causing all the ships which were in quest of Lord Nelson, to find him! And true it is, that if these two frigates, and two or three more that were out the look-out for the Admiral, had joined him previous to the engagement, they might have rendered him some service. But the worst is yet to come: for we can seriously assure Sir John, that if these vessels had not previously found the French fleet (for which the captains shall be broke when he is first Lord of the Admiralty) while they were searching for ours, the victory would have been as complete as heart could wish, or a vessel, nor a man would have escaped! It was these and other frigates which afterwards appeared that alarmed the enemy, and occasioned all those measures of precaution and security which we find they took; and for which, if Sir John will be pleased to compare the various dates of this and the following dispatch, he will see they had sufficient time.

"Notwithstanding all this, however, we are not inclined to be very angry with the ships in question. It is thought by many that their captains possess full as much nautical skill as Sir John Sinclair; and nearly as much promptitude and zeal for the service of their country; this we confess, is also our opinion, and when we see so many men anxiously and ardently engaged on an element which no human power can

whole fleet hove in sight. It was composed of 14 sail of the line, and two brigs, the wind was northerly and rather fresh. They bore down with a press of sail on our fleet, and clearly announced a design to attack us.

"The measures which the Admiral took on this occasion, the resolution to engage at anchor, and the results of this horrible affair, are detailed in the abstract*, which I have subjoined to the present letter; in that, I have delineated every circumstance as it appeared to me on this too grievous, and too dreadful night.

"The *l'Orient* took fire. It was by an accident which I cannot yet comprehend, that I escaped from the midst of the flames, and was taken into a yawl that was lying under the ship's counter. Not being able to reach the vessel of General Villeneuve, I made for this place, from whence I have now the mortification of transmitting you these melancholy details.

"The *Franklin*, the *Spartiate*, the *Tonnant*, the *Peuple Souverain*, and the *Conquérant* are taken. They got their top-masts up, and sailed with the enemy's squadron, which quitted the coast on the 18th of August; leaving here a small division of four ships of the line and two frigates.

"The *Mercur*, the *Heureux*, and the *Guerrier* have been burnt by the enemy. The two first ran aground during the action, and were bulged when they took possession of them.

"The *Timonoleon*, incapable of making her escape, was run on shore by Captain Trulet, who set her on fire, after putting all the crew either into his own boats, or into those which were sent him from the rest of the fleet.

"The two frigates, the *Artémise* and the *Sérieuse* were destroyed, in spite of the enemy's endeavours to preserve them; the first was burnt, and the other sunk.

"The sole relics then of this unfortunate armament are comprised in the division of frigates, corvets, and flutes, which are now at Alexandria, and in that of General Villeneuve, who, by a bold manœuvre, made his escape from the enemy. You will see by my abstract, that this latter division is composed of two ships of the line and two frigates, —the *Guillaume Tell*, the *Genereux*, the *Diane*, and the *Justice*.

"Placed by my rank at the head of that part of our unfortunate armament which remains here, Adm. Nelson proposed to me to receive the wounded, and other prisoners. In concert with Gen. Kleber, commandant of the town, I have acquiesced in his proposition; and three

can controul, and in a service which no human abilities can effect at will, we are ready to conclude that something more than a knowledge of agriculture is required to enable us to judge of their merits; and something better than an itch of finding fault, to justify an attack on the plans of the minister who employs them!"

"It follows this letter.

"Ganteaume does Villeneuve too much credit: the merit of the escape (such as it is) is due to another person."

thousand one hundred prisoners, of whom about 800 are wounded, have been put on shore since the 6th of August.

"By means of this correspondence we have collected some information respecting our personal losses. My pen trembles in my hand while, in conformity of my duty, I attempt to particularize our misfortunes.

"The Admiral, the Chiefs of Division, *Casa Bianca*, *Thevenart*, *Du Petit Thouars*, are killed, and six other superior officers, whose names are subjoined*, dangerously wounded. I have not yet been able to procure an exact list of the privates killed and wounded, on account of Admiral Nelson's refusing to send me the Commissaries of the captured vessels, with their *roles d'équipage*.

"Since the action the enemy's cruizers are masters of the whole coast, and interrupt all our communications. The other day they captured the *Fortune*, a corvet which the Admiral had sent to cruise off *Damietta*. The English Squadron, as I had the honour of mentioning to you above, sailed (it is said) for Sicily on the 18th instant. The division which is stationed here, consists of four seventy-four and two frigates.

"On account of the extraordinary care which the English always take to conceal their loss of men, we have been able to procure no information on the subject that can be relied on. We are assured, however, that Admiral Nelson is dangerously wounded in the head, and that two captains are killed. We are also told, that two of their ships, the *Majestic* and *Bellerophon*, had each 150 men killed and wounded.

"In the situation in which we are, blocked up by a very superior force, I am still ignorant, Citizen Minister, what measures we shall pursue with the feeble maritime resources that yet remain to us in this port; but if I must needs speak the truth, such as it really appears to me, I then say that, after so dreadful a disaster, I CONCEIVE NOTHING BUT A PEACE CAN CONSOLIDATE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF OUR NEW COLONY. MAY OUR GOVERNORS PROCURE US A SOLID AND HONOURABLE ONE!

I am, with respect,

GENTLEMAN. P. 319.

We had intended to subjoin the *Abstract of the Engagement*, given from memory by the same Admiral; but having already occupied so much space, we shall here desist, and refer our readers to the book for that most interesting account.

An Appendix is subjoined, containing some proclamations of Bonaparte; among which, none is more curious than one printed in French, modern Greek, and Italian; adorned at the top with the title *ARMY OF ENGLAND*, in capitals. The fleet did indeed prove to become in the end the fleet of England, but the army is probably, at this moment, the property of the Mamelukes, or their vultures.

* "These names do not appear; they were, probably, omitted in the hurry of making up the dispatches."

ART. XI. *Miscellaneous Sketches; or Hints for Essays.* By Arthur Browne, Esq. Fellow of Trinity College, Dublin. Two Volumes. 8vo. 8s. Robinsons. 1798.

WITH the contents of these volumes (making some few exceptions) we readily acknowledge ourselves to have been much entertained and instructed; they contain such a pleasing variety of subjects, and exhibit such eminent marks of ingenuity and ability, that we cannot reasonably do otherwise than allow them a considerable portion of merit. We must at the same time lament, that the author has not proceeded with his own sketches; as we fear that the outlines will not either be so ably or so entertainingly filled up as by himself. We think the tendency of these volumes much to be commended; they breathe throughout the language of a truly good man, and a sincere and pious Christian. Upon these grounds we readily excuse some few faults, and an affection for singular words and expressions; to which latter charge indeed, Mr. B. pleads guilty. We shall now proceed to some extracts from the work itself.

The first chapter upon College Education is particularly grateful to us, who cherish the remembrance of a college life with fond partiality; who look back to that period, when the heart, open and warm to the tender ties of friendship, formed some of its closest and most pleasing connections; who justly reverence collegiate institutions, whether of Cambridge, Oxford, or Dublin; and recollect with pleasure the time employed in the prosecution of those studies in which we were assisted by the abilities and kindness of eminent tutors; men respected for their public and private virtues. We must naturally be well pleased to see the honest endeavours of any sensible individual, employed in confuting those aspersions, which it has lately been the pride and ambition of some malignant and insidious writers to disseminate.

"If," concludes this writer, "we add to all these benefits (which he had before enumerated) the mass of real and solid learning usually included in the academical course (whatever desiderata may be omitted) it were to be hoped that even the most prejudiced of modern reformers would view Universities with a more favourable eye. But if they are determined upon novelties, let their invidious reflections be maturely considered by the dispassionate as floating in that general tide, which rolls against every thing that we have been accustomed to consider sacred or venerable, and let us not imagine that every thing must be wrong which our ancestors approved, and that nothing can be right which has ever been before."

It will not be a matter of surprise, if Mr. B. does not appear equally successful in all his hints; some are too trifling in themselves.

selves, and of too little importance in their consequences. The paper upon the distinction of Fancy and Imagination is ingenious; but ingenuity may be wasted upon trifles. We may make the same objections to two or three more. We recommend to particular notice, however, that upon Modern Sophism; and it will be seen, how justly this author has discriminated the conduct, and the result of the opinions and doctrines, of a large proportion of men in this and the adjoining kingdoms. When men, who are looked up to as possessing superior talents, information, and abilities, have led the way to innovation, and removed that *distinction*, which is necessary to be most strictly maintained, for the permanence of any form of government whatever, they must not be surprised if their inferiors, warranted by their example, should hold all superiority in contempt.

“ Let the great therefore (to use the words of this writer) upon whom ruin has fallen or impended, partly thank themselves for the fall of the bulwarks by themselves undermined. Let them remember that they opened the box of Pandora, which they now strive in vain to shut. Has the spirit of innovation been confined to the mob? A general opinion seems to have pervaded all ranks, that nothing which was old, could be right, and that every thing must be altered. Let the mighty, therefore, not think themselves blameless, if they have talked or fear to fall; no system of education could please them which had formerly pleased; no plan of policy was thought wise which the last generation had commended; to *blast* an opinion, it was sufficient to show, that it had been consecrated for ages. What have been the books, which we have seen perpetually in the hands of great men? *Rousseau, Voltaire, Gibbon*, and such like, the parents either of *irreligion*, or *revolution*. Liberality was the watch-word adopted by weakness, and the counter-sign used by cunning, and under an excellent name lurked the seeds of anarchy, massacre, and barbarism.”

A few authors have endeavoured to depreciate the merits of Johnson, both as a man and as a critic; whom we, for our parts, have strenuously defended. We do not, however, contend that he was intallible, and if some part of the charges alledged against him by Mr. Browne must be admitted; still we contend that the abilities and industry of that great man, have made ample recompence for what may be objectionable in some few of his sentiments. In spite of all attacks, Johnson must ever stand distinguished as a great and sincere moralist, a pious and zealous Christian. We think it, therefore, unnecessary to contend with Mr. Browne. It appears too, that the sarcastic remark made by Dr. J. upon the Americans, is the ground-work both of Mr. B.'s resentment and accusations, against an individual, who with all his foibles and peculiarities, will remain the admiration of ages yet to come.

The second volume opens with an enthusiastic picture of America; which, as we observed, explained to us the author's
 resentment

resentment against Dr. Johnson. It is far different from any we have ever seen of that country, but we can allow for a partiality to those scenes, where the years of innocence have passed in social tranquillity and delight. The paper upon Religion, shows a warmth of heart, and fervor of imagination, that do infinite credit to the writer. The excessive vanity of Voltaire is well known to the world; but the following extract will perhaps exhibit that, as well as his ignorance, in a remarkable degree; and as it must ever be of service to morality, to expose the absurdities and mistakes of this admired, though pernicious writer, we insert it with the more readiness.

“ The wit of Voltaire must delight every mind, even while it detests his principles, and despises his information. His impudent affectation of the latter, as to language and scripture, has been well exposed in the *Lettres Juives**: we may judge of the mathematical knowledge of the man who pretended to observe upon Newton, by the following position of his, which I once analyzed. He triumphantly in his History of Peter the Great (speaking of the population of Russia) exclaimed against an English ambassador, who said that to every square mile in the Russian dominions, there were only five inhabitants. For says he there are eight, inasmuch as they contain 111,000 square leagues, and there are twenty four millions of inhabitants. Now so far is it from being true, that this would make eight inhabitants to a square mile, it would not make three, and it is most evident to any eye that will take the trouble of considering it, that his calculation proceeds on the supposition, that because three long miles make a league in length, therefore three square miles (instead of nine) make a square league; for if we multiply one million and 110,000 (the number of square leagues in Russia according to him) by three, his calculation will be nearly right; but if you multiply that number by nine, the number of square miles will be nearly ten millions, and the inhabitants being twenty-four millions, there will not be of them two and a half to a square mile, a calculation much smaller instead of larger than Lord Moleworth's; yet Voltaire with the most impudent triumph exclaims, *L'Ambassadeur Anglois est abuse; mais il en avoit pas sans doute des memoires aussi fideles que ceux dont on a bien voulu ne faire part.*”

We must not dismiss our remarks upon these volumes, without acknowledging the pleasantry and wit contained in the three papers, written for the Flapper; nor without expressing our approbation and esteem of the author; with the hope of being again favoured with an opportunity of perusing some productions of his pen.

* This is a mistake. The *Lettres Juives* are by the Marquis d'Argens, who was rather the precursor than the opponent of Voltaire. The author means, evidently, the “ *Lettres de quelques Juifs a M. de Voltaire.*”

† N. B. This is the same author, whose lectures on the Civil Law form the subject of our third article.

ART. XXI. *Historical and Familiar Essays on the Scriptures of the New Testament.* By John Collier, Author of *Essays on the Jewish History and Old Testament.* In Two Volumes. 8vo. Scarlett, 348, Strand. 14s. 1797.

IT is a peculiar advantage which belongs to the Holy Scriptures, that they admit of being placed in a variety of lights, and treated in an almost infinite diversity of forms, without the possibility of betraying any marks of error or inconsistency. Composed under the guidance of inspiration, and by those who had been eye witnesses of the facts recorded, they have the solemn seal of truth and authenticity; and are therefore incapable of receiving injury by the closest enquiry; or the most familiar investigation.

Without conceiving, in the smallest degree, that the Scriptures in their present form are any other than they should be, in order to be the best, we are yet of opinion that publications like the present, when judiciously executed, may tend to demonstrate the historical order, which is not always perceptible to common minds; and to throw some light upon facts and discourses, by bringing them methodically together. Much has been done in this way by harmonies; and the plan of these essays embraces for the most part the advantages which belong to them, with the additional attractions of a regularly conducted history.

This author (whose former works it has not fallen within our province to notice) appears to be animated by a very laudable desire of extending the knowledge of scripture. This he not improperly conceives will be most effectually done, by presenting the gospel history under the most simple and familiar forms. His Essays are only chapters of a continued work, and serve by their distribution to answer the same ends. The first volume contains the Life of Christ; whose discourses and miracles are given to the time and place to which they are most generally supposed to belong; and are interwoven with the parts of the history, so as to assist rather than interrupt the general course of the narrative.

Of the doctrine of our Saviour, the author in his Introduction thus summarily speaks.

The doctrine our Lord taught was, Faith in himself; the nature of sin and its danger; the necessity of repentance and regeneration; assurance of pardon and restoration to the favour of God; the value of the soul and importance of its salvation; love of God and of our neighbour; the emptiness and vanity of the world, with the infinite superiority of spiritual enjoyments; piety; contentment; patience;

fience; reliance on God; self-denial; forgiveness of injuries; forgiveness of enemies; universal candour and charity. These sublime lessons of moral virtue extend to the inmost recesses of the thoughts. Sin, in every the least degree, is discountenanced, while rankling in the heart, vain would be crush its progress and existence, and deny it utterance." Vol. i, p. liv.

In relating the conferences which our Saviour maintained with his Disciples and others, as well as the precepts and parables which he delivered; the author usually interweaves some remarks explanatory of the occasions upon which they were produced, and the particular customs and usages to which they allude. In addition to this, the whole is for the most part paraphrased or changed so far in respect to its terms, as to accommodate the sense and expression to the capacities of common readers. An instance of this sort will appear in the Parable of the Talents, which is thus related by the author of the *Essays*.

"Alluding to the custom in Judea, and other conquered countries, of going to Rome to be established in their government, and to pay homage to the emperor, our Lord said—A certain prince went to a far country to be invested in his father's kingdom, with a design to return directly, and fix his residence at home. Having made preparations before he set out, the prince called ten of his servants, and gave to each ten pounds, and he said, trade with that sum till I come back. The prince had not been long gone before a tumult and factious spirit broke out among the citizens, and some of them base and disloyal, forwarded ambassadors, in order to intercept the King's accession and establishment, expressly declaring we will not submit to this man's authority, he shall not reign over us. Now while the prince was absent, they thought themselves certain of success, and persisted in their revolt. Notwithstanding the kingdom was confirmed to him, and the prince returned back, invested with full powers and authority. On his coming home, he first called before him those his servants to whom he had entrusted his money, and enquired what improvement each of them had made..

"The servant who had gained the most drew near, and said, Lord I have been so successful, that thy pound hath gained ten pounds; and his Lord said unto him, "Well done, thou good servant, for thy faithfulness over a little I will reward thee. Be thou governor over ten cities." After him the second came, and delivered in his account, "Lord, thy pound hath gained five pounds." And the prince said to him also, "Thou good and faithful servant, be thou governor over five cities." A third servant now drew near, and being negligent and slothful, he rudely excused himself, and said, Sir, thy pound is here laid up in a napkin. I was afraid of thee, knowing thee to be an austere man, who takest up what thou didst not lay down, and reapest where thou hadst not sown. And his Lord was filled with indignation, and said, "Thou wicked servant, out of thine own mouth wilt I condemn thee. Thou knewest I was an austere man,

man, taking up what I had not lain down, and reaping where I had not sown. Why then, for your own security, didst thou not give my money to the bank, that on my coming I might have received my own with usury? And, to shew his displeasure, he ordered them who stood by, to take from him the pound, and give it to him that hath ten pounds—(Wondering at this allotment, they said to him) Sir, that man hath already ten pounds. The prince, however, stood to his award, alledging that his faithfulness and diligence were deserving of it. And thus (says the prince) am I determined to act in future. To every one that hath, and improves what he hath, shall be given; but from him who hath not improved the little that he hath, that little shall be taken from him. Having thus settled with his servants, the prince passed sentence on his rebellious citizens, who had forwarded an embassy to annul his claim and oppose his government. With just resentment (he said) bring hither those my enemies, who in my absence grew riotous, and raised a sedition. Slay them in my presence with the sword. From the execution of rebels, let others be taught loyalty and submission.

“To lay aside the allusion and explain the parable. It is as if our Lord had said—I myself am going from you, and am about to receive my kingdom. Thus, at length, shall I appear, not as a temporal prince, but as the sovereign judge and everlasting king. After having received of my father all power and dominion, I shall summon before me all mankind, reward my faithful followers, who have improved those gifts and graces I have given them, with the joys of immortality; and pass sentence on the seditious and negligent, those who reject my gospel and refuse to submit to my authority. Beware, my disciples, lest any of you be found among those wicked servants who have insulted and despised it.” Vol. 1, p. 302.

In the second volume the author pursues his scriptural narrative, by adding the most memorable parts of the Apostolic History to that of Christ already given. This second part is introduced by a preliminary essay upon the first planting of Christianity. The writer then traces, in chronological order, the Event of Pentecost, the Journeys of Paul and Barnabas, and other circumstances instrumental in diffusing the Gospel. To the Epistles which follow are prefixed some anecdotes of St. Paul, and a brief but perspicuous abstract of each respective Epistle. We shall add to the extracts already made, the author's abstract of the Epistle to the Hebrews, as a specimen of the manner in which this part of his work is executed.

“It is (says Mr. Collier) a solemn, eloquent, and most persuasive address to his countrymen, the Hebrews, whom he invitingly calls the children of Abraham, a name ever grateful to the Jew. By adding it to his own title, God had distinguishingly honoured it. This letter was written during his imprisonment at Rome, in the year 62—“when he was in bonds,”—and delivered to the brethren in general, but first sent to those in Judea and Jerusalem. Paul directs it—“To the dispersed tribes

tribes of believing Israel." In an address to kinsmen and brethren, he avoids an authoritative and apostolic style, writes as a Doctor of the Law, confining himself chiefly to argument and rational conviction. His design, and what he had at heart, was, to convert his Hebrew brethren, and prove to them this grand truth, which their Scribes and Elders despised, and so positively denied—That "Jesus of Nazareth, whom they had so lately put to death, was the Christ, the Son of God." And moreover, "that his Gospel is of divine original, and of universal obligation." The doctrines of Christianity are here expressly asserted, and more fully explained in this his Epistle to the Hebrews than in any other writings of the Apostle. As Paul was writing to Jews, he confirms those doctrines by testimonies chiefly from their own Scriptures, the books of Moses and the Prophets.

"Thus he establishes the truth of Christianity from records in their own hands, the revelation they so much revered, and points out to them its perfect conformity with the revelation now made them by Jesus Christ.

"His countrymen were many of them zealots, they had imbibed prejudices from early life, insisting still on the divine authority of Moses, glorying and making their boast of the majesty and splendour exhibited at Mount Sinai, at the promulgation of the Jewish law, and setting a proud value on the high honours and privileges with which it had invested them. Besides an enlarged view of the gospel dispensation, this epistle exhibits throughout a deep extensive knowledge of the Jewish Scriptures. Paul's education at the feet of Gamaliel, his acquaintance with learned men of his own nation—the illumination which accompanied his commission—the gifts and graces of the spirit superior to his brethren—all of them combined, could alone qualify him so divinely to treat of the sublime subjects, in this most eloquent composition, never to be enough admired.

"He proves clearly to the Jew the superiority of the Christian Revelation over the law. The Jewish Economy, vast and magnificent as it was, by no means equalled the incomparable excellence of the blessings of the gospel. Instead of a message delivered by angels, God had now sent to them a revelation by his son. The vail was torn asunder. To Gentile as well as Jew, offers of salvation were freely made—Judaism now witnessed its completion in Christianity. In the course of his argument, the Apostle enquires—in what respect the Jew could be said to be a loser by embracing the gospel? The Jewish law was given them as a type, a guide only to a better covenant. By emblems and figures, Moses, their lawgiver, was designedly leading them to Christ. Of the coming of this Messiah he himself had prophesied. The religion of Christ was the substance of that which the Jewish law had been the shadow. The epistle throughout contains doctrines of general use—makes discoveries respecting the most important articles of Christian faith—and administers to us the best consolations, and sources of the most rational hope. The last chapter transcribes a list of duties winningly enforced—to do good, and, to communicate, forget not—exhortations to submission—to a patient endurance—to peace—union—brotherly love—dependance on God—a grateful sense of his mercies—good will to all men." Vol. ii, p. 415.

To the short analysis which we have here presented of these Scriptural Essays, we have only to add, that they are not written quite in an unexceptionable style; nor are they altogether free from blemishes and defects. We do not, however, think the inaccuracies such as to detract materially from the general merits of the performance, or to disqualify it from becoming a useful and engaging guide to the attainment of religious knowledge.

ART. XIII. *A Vindication of Homer, and of the ancient Poets and Historians who have recorded the Siege and Fall of Troy. In Answer to Two late Publications of Mr. Bryant. With a Map and Plates. By J. B. S. Morritt, Esq. 4to. 12s. Blanchard, York; Cadell and Davies, London. 1798.*

TOWARDS the latter end of the last century, the French critics, with C. Perrault at their head, commenced an attack upon Homer, for the rudeness of his images, and the grossness of his sentiments. Boileau resisted the assault, by showing that the language of simplicity, the scenery of nature, and the manners of mankind at large, were not to be measured by the standard of Parisian refinement.

The present century is drawing to a conclusion, with the appearance of another controversy, in which we are not to contend for the merits of Homer, but almost for his existence. On this question the learned and venerable Mr. Jacob Bryant has challenged all opponents, and dared every species of hostility*, provided it is conducted with that candour and urbanity to which every man of learning, and, we add, particularly such a man, has a claim.

Mr. Morritt has accepted the challenge, certainly without any of the prejudice which Mr. B. imputes to all his antagonists, and as certainly with all the candour that is due to Mr. B.'s acknowledged probity and erudition. But candour binds no one, according to the laws of controversy, to pass unnoticed lapses arising rather from a spirit of system than a disregard to truth; and erudition never runs more to waste, than when it is employed in contributing to a stream which is not pure at its source. It is the system of Mr. B. and its principle which

* Prejudice, he calls it in the preface to his Dissertation; and candour he claims in the conclusion of the introduction to his Observations.
ought

ought to be resisted; and if these prove erroneous, whatever tribute may be due to his talents, and the extent of his readings, they are but the trappings and the pageantry of his work.

Mr. B.'s arguments, with his corollaries and conclusions, amount, according to his table of contents, to one hundred and twenty-three. Out of these, Mr. M. has selected for discussion such as require a more particular notice; and in this consists the first part of his work. The latter part contained his observations made on the spot, while he was visiting the Troad, warm with the love of Homer, and tracing the discovery of M. Chevalier with caution equal to his candour.

What we have already said on this subject will be seen in vol. ix. pp. 585, 591, and 604; and we are ready to confess, that when we first viewed the stream assumed by M. Chevalier for his Scamander, pleased as we were to see the geographical difficulties of the Iliad removed, we were not without scepticism as to the fact. We saw a brook of Mr. Wood's converted into a river by M. Chevalier, and its course of five miles augmented to ten or twelve; and when we reflected that Mr. Wood professed to have traced the geography of the Troad on the spot, as well as M. Chevalier, we hesitated between two evidences equally entitled to credit. But it now appears, that Mr. Wood was deceived by the same error which misled those who had preceded him, and went four and twenty miles up into the crags of Ida, for what lay under his feet in the plain, and close to the sea shore. That this is the fact, and that M. Chevalier's Scamander is really a discovery, we have now the evidence of several English gentlemen who visited the plain of Troy for the purpose of ascertaining the truth; and Mr. Morritt, Mr. Stockdale, Mr. Dallaway, and Mr. Bernal, all bear witness to the general accuracy of M. Chevalier's delineation of the tract. They all agree that the modern issue of the Scamander is artificial; that the line by which it is conducted is straight, and totally dissimilar from the natural windings of a river; and that the bank is formed of earth thrown out of the channel. They all assert that the old channel of the Scamander to its junction with the Simois, is still visible, still capable of being traced through its whole extent, and still receives the drippings of its ancient occupant, however now diverted in an opposite direction.

It is this discovery of the Scamander which unravels all the difficulties that have disfigured the geography of Homer, from the time of Strabo to the present day. We now have a Scamander for the troops to pass in their daily route to the scene of action: a Scamander on the left of the Trojan line; fordable, without the shallowness of a brook, and so narrow, that a
tree

see falling across it, might well be said to form a bridge from side to side. All these are circumstances necessary to identify the stream we were to search for, and they never could be found by those who traced the eastern stream from its issue to its source.

It is necessary to insist upon this point above all others, not only because M. Chevalier's publication gave origin to the controversy, but because the restoration of the true geography overturns the whole hypothesis of Mr. Bryant. If we admit his Egyptian Troy, we must not only rob the Phrygian Troy of its name, but its locality, and all the circumstances of its locality; a supposition extravagant beyond all bounds. If Homer's pictures of the plain of Troy were fictitious, his scene might be transferred to Egypt or to India; if it be true, the scene must be there only where the geography is consistent with the truth. On this subject more will be said when we come to consider the second part of Mr. Morritt's work; but our immediate business is with his refutation of Mr. Bryant's attack on Homer.

Out of Mr. B's hundred and twenty-three divisions of his argument, Mr. M. has selected forty-one for answer. Our readers will not expect from us the detail on either side, but we shall observe generally, that the nature of the defence is as simple as it is modest. It is, in truth, common sense employed against a mass of erudition; and a collection of evidence from the most approved authors, placed in opposition to the capricious judgment of the few and the most obscure. The catalogue at the end of Mr. M.'s work gives a list of forty-three authors (and the number might be greatly increased) in opposition to three* names quoted at second hand, to three writers† in *propria persona*, to an epigram, and to Mr. Bryant himself; the only author who ever imagined that the scene of the Iliad was in Egypt.

The question however is to be decided, not by numbers, but by argument; we shall begin therefore with the chronology‡.

Mr. B. objects to the whole chronology of Greece prior to the first Olympiad. Mr. M. considers this as drawing a line between history and fable, with a precision which can hardly be supported. He complains justly in another part of his work, that if the History of the Trojan War is set aside, it

* Anaxagoras, and Metrodorus, quoted by Diog. Laertius; a passage by Athenæus.

† Basil Magnus, Tatianus Assyri. Chrysostom.

‡ Morritt, p. 3.

shregates the whole History of Greece, with which it is so interwoven, that both must stand or fall together; and that this is such a sweeping deluge, as even the incredulity of Mr. B. can hardly require. Now if we cannot vouch for the precision of the Arundelian marbles, which fix the taking of Troy on the night between the 11th and 12th of June*, in the year answering to 1184. before the Christian æra; if we cannot ascertain this fact within a century, and suppose the whole to be a chronological accommodation suited to the tradition, yet that there is a poetical chronology consistent with the poetical history in all its parts, is as evident, as that there is an historical chronology of any country this day in Europe.

The two most conspicuous families of Greece, at Thebes and Mycenæ, coincide in all the leading facts relating to their poetical history, with as much order, and as much perspicuity, as the history of Sparta and Athens, in the time of the Peloponnesian war. They correspond likewise with the families of Theseus, Pelæus, Æacus, Aëneus, Nestor, and many others, in such a chain of connexion, intercourse, and mutual relation; that by consulting the local histories of each territory in Pausanias, a more regular series might be formed and arranged of these independent states, than of our own Saxon heptarchy in this kingdom. That there is a mixture of fable or mythology interspersed in this history, is granted; but that the whole should be annihilated, requires the scepticism of a Bolingbroke. Let us try the experiment upon the family of Pelops. Tantalus is the son of Jupiter Phrygius†, he reigned over Phrygia and Cappadocia; his son, Pelops, was driven out of Phrygia‡ by Ius; he came over into Greece; he married the daughter of Quomau, king of Elis; by inheritance or conquest, he obtained the chief power in the Peninsula, and gave it his own name; his family reigned at Mycenæ; their power extended over Corinth§, Sicyon, Achaia, and Lacedæmon; the walls of Mycenæ were built by the Cyclopes||; the naval power of Mycenæ extended over many islands¶ in the Ægean Sea. Here is a brief history without inconsistency; and, before it can be set aside, we must annihilate two circumstances of proof, which

* See Blair.

† *Zens Phrygius*. Zens was of all countries, Ammonite, Cretan, Phrygian, and Olympian. Are not all the gods of Greece, and all the genealogists traced up to them, ascribable to the first settlers from Phœnicia, Egypt, Asia?

‡ Pausan, Cor. p. 64. Eliac. 160.

§ Strabo, p. 372.

|| Pausan. cor. 59.

¶ Homer.

exist in full force at the present hour; these are, the name of Peloponnesus, and the walls of Mycenæ. Pausanias saw those walls* thirteen hundred years after they were built, and Mr. Merritt has seen them in his last visit to Greece. If now Mr. Bryant should ask whether Britain had its name from Brutus, it might be answered, that if the history of Brutus were supported by half this evidence, it would be credible; and this evidence, compared and connected in time with the family of Œdipus, at Thebes, and the other contemporary families, forms such a body, that Mr. B. will hardly venture to push the controversy further on this head.

From the general chronology of the house, we will proceed to that of an individual; for Mr. Bryant says, that Helen must be above an hundred years old at the conclusion of the war (M. p. 25); it is very strange that he should build this upon the authority of Scaliger, Petavius, and Clemens Alexandrinus, when he declares, at the same time, he places no trust in their deductions. This is literally, as Homer says, raising an objection like a plaything, for the pleasure of *kicking* it down.

ῥῆμα μάλ', ὡς ὅτι τις ψάμαθι παῖς ἄγχι θαλάσσης

ὅς' ἐπὶ ἐν ποσσὶν ἀδύσματα νηπιέσται.

Ἀψ αὐτὶς ἀνέχεται ποσσὶν καὶ χερσὶν ἀδύσματα. II. O. 362.

Now, the dates relating to Helen stand thus, in Blair:

Rape of Helen by Theseus 1213 A. C.

Rape of Helen by Paris - 1168

Troy taken - 1184.

This statement gives a space of twenty-nine years, to which, if we add from twelve to fifteen for the age of Helen, it makes

* The circumference was left, and the gate with lions on it, as well as the treasury of Agamemnon under ground. Who were the Cyclopes that built them? A nation driven out of Thrace, which sailed in Asia, and which came into Greece to work for hire. Strabo, lib. 8, 373. They built works at Mycenæ, others at Argos, Tirynæ, and Orchomenus; whatever fable there be in their character as one-eyed monsters, their existence as a nation is testified by Homer, Strabo, Euripides, Pausanias, and many others, and by their works still existing in 1798. It should seem as if some civilized people had existed in Thrace previous to Grecian history, and been driven out by a Gætic or Tartar invasion; from this civilized people, the Greeks derived such remnants of accounts, as they had of Orpheus, Linus, &c. &c. and the Cyclopes. The Cyclopes were not of a divine origin (Paus. 26), that is, not oriental; but giants, and next to the gods. The best history of them is found in the Scholiast of Euripides [Orestes. Lin. 963. Ed. Bass.] who calls Argos Γα Κυκλαδία.

her forty-four at most, when the city was taken, and fifty-four at most when Telemachus saw her still beautiful as a goddess, at the court of Sparta. Women, it must be confessed, are usually ungoddesse'd at that age; but we have instances in our own days, that all do not lose their attractions.

This however will be called, perhaps, the accommodation of chronology; but it is the duty of a chronologer, when he has facts to distribute, to reconcile them to each other, as much as it is the interest of the disputant to puzzle and confound. Helen and Penelope were probably both of the same age. Both seem to have preserved their charms; and though Penelope complains,

Θεοὶ δ' ἄπαλλον οἶζόν
 "Οἱ γὰρ ἀγάσμεντο παρ' ἀλλήλοισι μένοντες
 "Ἦεν ταρπῆναι. Od. ψ. 210.

Ulysses still found her lovely, and

"Αὐτάδην λείπετον πελαῖον Διομῆς ἱκόντο. ψ. 296.

Number of Men and Ships. B. p. 20. M, p. 11.

Mr. B. is not content with asserting the incredibility of collecting the army which Agamemnon commanded, but he denies the possibility of finding such a number of troops in so early an age; in answer to this, Mr. M. justly observes, that an uncivilized state of society is much more likely to produce armies of great magnitude, than a period after civilization has taken place. He instances the northern swarms which overwhelmed the Roman empire; and he might have added the Tartar invasions, in all ages; the conquests of the Persians, and those of the Arabians, in the first ages of Mohammedism. But Greece, if we take the picture of it from Homer, was in a situation of all others the most conducive to the increase of the human species. The people were not yet crowded into great cities for protection, or driven into them for the interest of their more powerful neighbours. But they were spread loosely over the whole surface of the country, living in small towns, or rather villages, which are as favourable to population as great cities are noxious. This is likewise some proof that, notwithstanding the predatory excursions of the age, society was comparatively in a state of safety; for, in times of danger, the villages cease, and the cities are crowded. Examine the catalogue of Homer with the assistance of Eustathius, Strabo, and Pausanias, and you find more names of places than his commentators can find situations to receive. Try the experiment upon Boeotia, and judge whether the population is not self-evidently more numerous in that age than in the historic period, when Thebes

Y y

was become the sole potentate, and at last the tyrant and destroyer of Platæa and Orchomenus. The Æolian colony is 348 years prior to the first Olympiad, where Mr. B. commences the historical period, and 552 years before Cræsus, where Herodotus opens his narrative of events. The Ionian colony is dated 472 years previous to the reign of Cræsus; and both colonies afford proofs of the population of Greece, its vigour, and its strength, in an age when Mr. B. supposes it in a state of infancy. Does not the venerable controversialist see, that if he will believe nothing prior to the first Olympiad, he must deny the existence of these colonies, as well as the existence of Agamemnon, Mycenæ, and Troy?

The numbers of the Greek army, as calculated by Thucydides, amount to 102,000 men, by no means an immoderate amount even by comparison with the forces in the Persian war, if we consider the countries which contributed to the supply. The forces at Platæa in that war were 110,000, including the Helots; in which armament, the Thessalians, Phocæans, Bœotians, Argives, and the islands, had no share; whereas, all were united under Agamemnon; and if the Greeks could have found a principle of union in the Persian war, they might have doubled their numbers, at least; for Peloponnesus alone contained 100,000 fighting men, if they could all have been brought into action.

The means of uniting so many independent states under Agamemnon, it must be confessed, is the greatest difficulty relative to the war. The oaths of Helen's lovers were but a weak obligation, though the oath of a Greek was not so proverbial in that age as in the time of Polybius; but if the difficulty admits of a solution, it must be found in the superior power of the House of Atreus, compared with the rest of Greece. Agamemnon had an hundred ships, Menelaus sixty, and sixty were lent by Agamemnon to Arcadia. The power of Menelaus extended over Messene; and Argos* was in some degree dependent upon Mycenæ. The only territories in the Peloponnesus not dependent seem to be Pylos and Elis, and Homer is very express in marking the superior forces of Agamemnon both in number and quality,

Ἀγαμέμνων ἄμα τῇσι πολλοῖς πᾶσι καὶ ἄριστος ἄνθρωπος. B. Cat. 84.

* This may be collected from Homer, who says of Agamemnon, καὶ Ἄργεϊ παντὶ ἀνάσσειν, b. 108. including, as it should seem, all Argolis, or, in a larger sense, all Peloponnesus. In a similar manner Phoenix and Menoetius were kings in Thessaly under Peleus, Eriopides at least favours this opinion, when, upon the trial of Orestes, he makes Diomedes deliver his opinion in the public assembly.

According

According to Mr. Bryant's own estimate, if the Pylians and Eleans are taken out of the account, the forces of the sons of Atreus would amount to 25,500 men; and this number, compared with the followers of any other chief, will account for the influence of Mycænæ over the rest of Greece, in a manner that may satisfy any common doubter. Achilles, the most considered of all the chiefs, brought only 2500 myrmidons to the war*.

Misrepresentation of cited Passages.

It is a serious thing to bring such a charge, against a man of Mr. B.'s acknowledged probity, as a neglect of veracity; and indeed, Mr. M. with candour equal to his judgment, avoids it. But there is a love of system, and a fondness for an hypothesis of one's own raising, to which an author inadvertently yields, with the blindness of a parent. It is this that warps the judgment from the strait line of consistency, and makes Mr. B. see those facts in the authorities he appeals to, which no one can discover but himself.

It is on this ground that Mr. M. complains of unfairness in the citation from Varro and Justin Martyr, p. 4; and the misrepresentation of a passage from Thucydides, p. 10. It is with great justice also that he reprehends the adduction of a sentence from Libanius, a sophist of the fourth century, in opposition to the ancient historians; and supports this, not indeed by falsifying, but by suppressing the evidence of Herodotus. p. 19.

"Mr. Bryant," he says, "puts a little dash where a part of the sentence is omitted, but the reader should be informed, that the sentence runs thus: all beyond seemed full of danger, as they had little knowledge of those parts *which appeared to be full of enemies.*"

This passage was cited to prove, that the Greeks never sailed beyond Delos, because the fleet of Sparta refused to proceed further upon a single occasion. Their want of knowledge therefore is enhanced; the fear of their enemies suppressed. But, in truth, what avails the knowledge of Sparta in this case? The argument ought to have proved the ignorance of the Greeks in general; and if they were ignorant of the sea beyond Delos, how could the Æolian colony have been founded? Or, after it was founded, how could the intercourse between Greece and her colonies have been preserved, but by crossing this sea in every direction?

* 50 ships with fifty men each; five bodies of 500 each. Il. ii. 168.

Another instance which ought not to be suppressed, is one which Mr. M. has reprehended with just indignation, but not half so much as it deserves, p. 34. It is a passage from Diodorus (iv. 269) where the author says, that the Epigoni after taking Thebes, consecrated Daphne, daughter of Tiresias, priestess of Delphi; she was a versifier of the oracles, and from her Homer borrowed many verses to adorn his works. By this, says Mr. B. was not *originally* meant Thebes in Bœotia, but *Θῆβαι Ἀιγυπτίαι ἐκατόμυλοι*.—What? when the author says expressly, that it was *Thebes in Bœotia*, shall Mr. B. by his [*originally*] turn it into Thebes of Egypt? and shall his own unaccented Greek be put upon a careless reader, as if it were the expression of Diodorus? Is it fair, is it candid to quote an author for what he does not write? or to turn what he does write, to prove an exact contradiction to what he means? And yet this is a reasoner, who imputes prejudice to all who shall controvert his hypothesis.

But we will proceed now, in return, to quote Bryant against Bryant. In the dissertation before us, he maintains, p. 71,

“ That the chief objects of worship in this part of the world were Attis and Cybele, called Rhea Dindymene and Berecynthia, the mother of the Gods; she was styled *Θεὰ ἡ Φρυγία*, the Phrygian Goddess, and her priests were the Corybantes, the same as the *Idæi Dactyli* and Curetes. But Homer makes Apollo the guardian God; and Minerva the chief Goddess, whose tutelary image was the Palladium.”

But in his Analysis of Ancient Mythology, vol. iii, p. 435, Mr. B. writes,

“ The Trojans and Mysians were of a different race from the native Phrygians, being of the same language with the people of Hellas and Ionia . . . the Grecians and Trojans were of the same family, as speaking the same language.” Morritt from Bryant, p. 47.

These two passages, in direct opposition to each other, cited from the same author, cannot perhaps be paralleled in point of contradiction, by any extracts from the most voluminous writer extant; and these two opinions Mr. B. delivered possibly at the same moment, for he assures us that his dissertation is no new work, it has been in preparation these thirty years.

Mr. M. with great justice, turns this contradiction to further advantage, by showing, that Mr. B. not only once thought that the Trojans were of the same family with the Greeks, but also *that they existed*, which in his dissertation he has thought fit to deny; and whenever Mr. M. shall bring his work to a second edition, we hope he will not forget to remind Mr. B. that his Attis and Cybele were Phrygian deities and not Trojan; and that the Phrygia they belong to, is not on the coast of the Ægean

Ægean Sea, not on the *Hellepont*, but the great *Phrygia* in the centre of *Asia Minor*, and surrounded on all sides by the maritime provinces. *Pessinus*, from whence the *Mater Bercynthia* was brought to Rome, is not so little as 400 miles from *Troy*; and the city *Cybele*, supposed to be the same as *Celænæ*, is in its neighbourhood. If the provinces* on the coast worshipped this deity, it was not a native, but imported superstition; and that, long after the age of *Homer*, when the *Æolians* and *Ionians* had admitted many of the Asiatic ceremonies into their worship. The *Diana* of *Ephesus* was not the Greek *Diana*, but the *Dea Multimamma*, originally from *Egypt*.

It was our intention to close what we had to say at present with this particular; but as our enquiry in the following number will be wholly confined to the geographical part of the controversy, we shall here subjoin a few remarks on the country of *Homer*.

Mr. B. is decidedly of opinion, that *Homer* was of an Egyptian family; or, at least, of an *Ionian* or *Milesian* family settled in *Egypt*; and that he was born in *Ithaca*, but travelled himself also in *Egypt*, and there collected the History of his *Iliad*, from the Egyptian *Troy* (*Dissert.* p. 144); and first, he was of an Egyptian family, because he was descended from *Melanopus* of *Cyme* (*Herod. vit. Hom. in initio.*) and *Melanopus* signifies a black or swarthy countenance. Asking pardon for the levity of the remark, this is not a better proof, than if we were to apply it in a parallel manner, to prove that *Edward the Black Prince* was an *Ethiopian*; and little more do we think of *Mr. B.*'s *Ægyptius Heros* from the *Odyssey*, as a proof that there were Egyptians in *Ithaca*, than if it were said that all the family of the *Frenches* in *England*, are *Frenchmen*, or all the *l'Anglois* in *France*, *Englishmen*. After all that *Mr. B.* has said himself, and all that he has caught from others, it will not be possible to show from *Homer* himself, that he had any connection with *Egypt*, or that he ever was in the country. Reasons for an opinion directly the reverse, are numerous; for *Homer* himself proves his ignorance of *Egypt*, when he tells us, that a bird could not fly in a whole year to the extent of *Menelaus's* wanderings in that country; an hyperbole doubtless, but still an hyperbole that bespeaks more ignorance than amplification. The Egyptian *Thebes* was doubtless known to *Homer* by report; but he has carried *Menelaus* thither, without giving his course, in the same manner as he conveys *Ulys-*

* See *Strabo*, cited by *Mr. P.* p. 2.

† *Od. r.* 322.

ses from the Æolian Islands to Ithaca and back again, without noticing the track that he pursued*.

It is a trite observation, that Homer was ignorant of the name of the river; and that he calls the Nile, *Ægyptus*. But even in this there is something extraordinary; for whether the name be derived from the Hebrew, *Neel*, a river, or from the Ethiopic, *Nil*, blue, it is probably coeval with the inhabitants of the country. If Homer ever visited Thebes, he must have passed by the Pyramids, and if the Egyptian Troy had been the real scene of his action, supposing it to be Babylon, or any place in the neighbourhood of Babylon, that city stood on the same rock where Cairo is now built; and the whole war must have passed in sight of the Pyramids. Is this possible, without any allusion to these masses? Or will it be argued, on the contrary, that Homer is prior to the Pyramids. The difficulties into which Mr. B. voluntarily plunges, in this part of his argument, are inexplicable; and if, as he says, there was no Troy in Asia, but Ilium only, does it not follow, that he must annihilate Simois, Scamander, Tenedos, Samos Lesbos, and all the places in the vicinity, as well as Troy itself?

But Homer, if not an Egyptian, was of an Egyptian family, and a native of Ithaca. Surely not. If Ithaca spoke the language of the continent to which it was attached, the language of Epirus was Doric; the Græci from whom the Latins received their language and the name of it, with the name of the people, were inhabitants of Epirus; and the Latin language still preserves the Doric forms of inflexion without knowing any thing of the Ionic. But if Ithaca used the dialect of Epirus, that must be Doric also; and the dialect of Homer is as distinct from the Doric, as the Patois of Navarre is from the French of Paris.

If then Homer is neither an Egyptian nor a native of Ithaca, let us revert to Asia Minor, where the general stream of tradition fixes his birth, and let us examine the circumstances that tend to confirm this opinion. Smyrna, Chios, and Colophon all put in their claim; and Mr. Wood has, with great acuteness, observed, that the winds noticed by Homer and their effects, all conspire to prove that he describes what he saw; and that the characters of these winds all belong to the coast of Asia, and to no other.

Ὅς δ' ἄνεμοι δύο πόρτοι δέινοντο λχθύνοντα
Βορέης κ' Ζεφύρος τότε θρησκύνοντο.

I. 5.

* Δ. 126. Δ. 365.

It is the north-west wind from Thrace that raises the storm on the coast of Asia; and it is the west, however it appears to be a rainy wind, in general, even in Homer, that is his freezing wind, and the East wind that thaws. See *Od. T.* 205. And the effect of this wind on the coast of Asia is still the same, according to the evidence of Mr. Wood and other travellers who have observed it on the spot.

If then this be the country of Homer, let us next enquire for his city. The life of the poet, attributed to Herodotus, mentions Cyme as the place where his family lived, Smyrna as the place of his birth, and Chios of his residence; all these circumstances are agreeable to the internal evidence of his works, and we are therefore rather disposed to establish than to controvert them. It is from the same authority also we learn that he was an *Æolian*. The grand internal evidence to confirm this, is the dialect of the poems; now almost universally acknowledged to be a mixture of the *Æolic* and *Ionian*, and such a mixture as the intercourse of the tribes in their emigration might naturally produce.

The *Æolian* colony began to move about 60 years after the fall of Troy; Penthius the son of Orestes conducted it to Thrace; his son Archelaus carried it over the Hellespont to Cyzicum and Dascyleon. Graus*, son of Archelaus, advanced to the Granicus and Lesbos, while Clenas† and Malaus, at the head of another party, built Cyme on the continent, between Lesbos and the gulf of Smyrna. Smyrna itself also was built by the *Æolians* 18 years after Cyme; and, as Cyme was the capital of *Æolia*, Smyrna was its boundary on the south. But it is very remarkable that Smyrna was within the *Ionian* limit, lying south of the Hermus; and what is still more remarkable, the *Ionians* from Colophon and Ephesus took‡ Smyrna§ from the *Æolians*, and admitted it into the rights of their own league, and the Panionian assembly. This is a fact above all others which should induce us to allow the pretensions of Smyrna as the place which gave birth to Homer; the dialect of that city, more than any other which can be named, must be a mixture of the *Æolic* with the *Ionian*,

* Graus, son of Echelates, grandson of Penthius. Pausan. 82.

† See Strabo, xiii. in initio.

‡ Pausanias, 210.

§ There was a change in the site of Smyrna, noticed by the ancients, and marked by Pocock, vol. ii. book ii. p. 34. The new Smyrna was placed by Alexander, (Pausan. 210) and for the honour of his sagacity, it is almost the only harbour on the coast which is not choked,

and the Ionic as belonging to the prevailing power ought to be the prevailing idiom. This is the actual dialect of Homer, and this is what all the circumstances connected imperiously require. But when we mention the Ionic dialect, it is not that of Herodotus, who wrote after the resolution of the vowels had taken place, by which it is peculiarly distinguished from the later Attic; but that ancient Ionic, which was the same as the Attic*, and which was the prevailing language of the Greeks, softened, perhaps, originally from the Doric, and still preserving some of its peculiar forms.

Next to the dialect of Homer, we may notice those expressions, which the author of his life says are Æolic. The *πρωτόδοξα*, he informs us, are peculiar to the Æolians; the omission of mentioning the *Ὀσφύς* in the sacrifice is agreeable also to their manners; and the term *Ἀισυμνήτης*, the title† of the chief magistrate in that country, is peculiar to Homer, or those who have taken it from him. These singularities, accompanied with the assertion, that the Æolians possessed the whole province of Troas‡, will, perhaps, raise our conjecture to a certainty, when we say that Homer was a native of Smyrna, and that the subject of his poem was naturally suggested by the site of Troy forming part of the possessions of his countrymen.

It does not from hence follow, that we assert the life of Homer to be genuine, or that it is the work of Herodotus; but we believe it to be very ancient, and to contain the current traditions concerning the poet. We can likewise say, that there is no anachronism in it, when it places his age 622 years previous to the expedition of Xerxes, as the Æolian emigration is still prior to that date. The marbles indeed fix the age of Homer 196 years later; and the system we have adopted would make it posterior to the Ionian colony; but in all that has been said on this point, we have not the presumption to talk of proofs. We wish only to reconcile difficulties, and compare the internal evidence with the traditions: in the performance of this task, we trust that we have been employed in the cause of literature, and given testimony of our veneration of the poet. *Τὰ Ὁμήρου γὰρ ὀφίλημα ἔγιντο ἐς ἅπαντα ἀνθρώπους.* Paus. Mef. 139. and we will now for the present conclude with a sentiment, to which we hope Mr. Bryant himself will subscribe.

* τὴν μὲν Ἰλῶα τῇ παλαιᾷ Ἀττικῇ τὴν αὐτὴν φασίν. Strabo. viii. 333.

† See Apollonius in voce. Etym. Mag. Bentley Hom. from *Ἀἰσ* totle.

‡ Ἀιολῶν οἱ Ἰλῶν ἐφ' ἡμῶν ἔχουσιν. Paus.

In an age when it is the fashion to destroy every thing and build nothing, if half the talents and erudition which are applied to support the dreams of scepticism, were employed in confirming the received opinions of mankind, the science of criticism, as well as politics, would be benefitted by the exchange.

(To be concluded in our next.)

ART. XIV. *Narrative of the Sufferings and Escape of Charles Jackson, late Resident at Wexford in Ireland; including an Account, by way of Journal, of several barbarous Atrocities committed in June, 1798, by the Irish Rebels in that Town, while it was in their Possession: To the greater Part of which he was an Eye-Witness.* 12mo. 82 pp. 2s. Wright, Rivingtons, &c.

PAINFUL as our feelings must be on reading this plain unvarnished tale, there is perhaps no species of publication more useful at the present crisis. We have already seen the consequences produced by revolutions, on the French system, in different parts of the continent. It remained to view the effects of similar measures in a part of the British dominions, and to judge from thence what extensive desolation and misery have been prevented by the vigorous exertions of government.

The writer of this narrative, an industrious English mechanic, had settled at Wexford early in the year 1797, and, having remained there till June, 1798, was a witness to all the horrors which took place while that town was in the possession of the Irish rebels. Being a loyal subject, and a Protestant, he was seized by the rebellious crew, and continued for three weeks in their power, in a constant state of suffering, and in hourly dread of tortures and death. On one occasion he was compelled, on pain of instant death, to be the executioner of one of their victims. Twice he was led out to execution, and escaped by the most providential occurrences. His account of the last of these tragedies we will extract, as a good specimen of the work, and as an awful warning to all who may still favour the principles by which this rebellion was produced.

“ On Wednesday, June 20, about eight o'clock in the morning, we heard the drums beat to arms and the town-bell ring, which was a sure sign to us of our friends being near; but, at the same time, we expected

pected we should be cut off before they could arrive and release us. In this terrible state of suspense we remained till four o'clock in the afternoon, when we heard a horrid noise at the gate, and a demand of the prisoners. Eighteen or twenty were immediately taken out; and, in about half an hour, the rebels returned for more victims. In the whole, they took out ninety-eight.—Those who were last called out were seventeen in number. Mr. Daniels and Mr. Robinson, both gaugers; Mr. Atkins, a tide-waiter; Mathews and Gurly, who were with me at the execution of Murphy; and myself, were included in this lot. The moment Mathews put his head out of the gaol, he was shot dead; which, I believe, would have been the fate of us all, had not a Mrs. Dixon, (wife to a man who kept a public house in the town, and who had been made a captain by the rebels,) when Mathews fell, immediately advanced, and desired they would desist, as they ought to allow the people on the bridge *the pleasure of seeing us*. We were accordingly marched to the bridge; and, when we came in sight of the people assembled there to witness the executions, they almost rent the air with shouts and exultations. I and my sixteen fellow-prisoners knelt down in a row. The blood of those who had been already executed on this spot (eighty-one in number) had more than stained, it streamed upon, the ground about us. They first began the bloody tragedy by taking out Mr. Daniels, who, the moment he was touched with their pikes, sprung over the battlements of the bridge into the water, where he was instantly shot. Mr. Robinson was the next: he was piked to death.—The manner of piking was, by two of the rebels pushing their pikes into the front of the victim, while two others pushed pikes into his back, and in this state (writhing with torture) he was suspended aloft on the pikes till dead. He was then thrown over the bridge into the water.—They ripped open the belly of poor Mr. Atkins; and, in that condition, he ran several yards; when, falling on the side of the bridge, he was piked. Thus they proceeded till they came to Gurly, who was next to me. At that moment, one of them came up to me, and asked me if I would have a priest. I felt my death to be certain, and I answered “No.” He then pulled me by the collar; but was desired to wait till Gurly was finished. While they were torturing him, General Roach rode up in great haste, and bid them beat to arms; informing them that Vinegar-Hill camp was beset, and that reinforcements were wanting. This operated like lightning upon them: they all instantly quitted the bridge, and left Mr. O'Connor, an organist; William Hamilton, the bailiff of the town; and myself, on our knees. The mob (consisting of more women than men) which had been spectators of this dreadful scene, also instantly dispersed in every direction, supposing the king's troops were at hand. We were so stupified by terror that we remained for some time in this posture without making the least effort to escape. The rebel-guard soon came to us, and took us back to the gaol; telling us, that we should not escape longer than the next day, when neither man, woman, or child, of the Protestants, should be left alive. But it pleased God to prevent their dreadful intention from being carried into effect, by giving success to his Majesty's arms.” P. 24a

We

We are much concerned to observe, that the cruel and atrocious spirit of this rebellion seems to have been blended with, and much inflamed by, religious bigotry. The Roman Catholics, at least in that part of Ireland, seemed to consider the cause of rebellion as that of their religion, and to look to the success of their arms as a prelude to the establishment of their hierarchy. In the frenzy of their zeal they appear to have forgotten that they were instigated by avowed Jacobins, the disciples and imitators of the French Revolutionists; who would probably, like their prototypes, have trampled upon every faith, when the pretext of religion had become no longer necessary to the acquisition of power.

It is with pleasure that we view in this narrative a striking contrast to the barbarity of the rebels, in the conduct of the King's troops and the loyalists, on their victory. Only the leaders of the rebellion, and a few of their most active followers suffered, and these after the most patient and impartial trials. We will state, in Mr. Jackson's words, the temperate and compassionate behaviour of the loyal inhabitants of Wexford, on the execution of those very men from whom they had suffered such dreadful persecutions.

"Monday, June 25, Captain Keughe, Father Roach, and the seven other convicted rebels, were brought to the bridge of Wexford at eleven o'clock, according to the sentence passed on them. The crowd assembled was very great; which I mention, as I wish to remark how different the conduct of the spectators on this melancholy occasion was, when compared with the licentious and inhuman fury of that mob which surrounded and witnessed the massacre of the Protestants. Those victims, while on their way to execution, were deafened by the exultations, and oppressed by the insults, of the savage-minded men and women, who, in droves, pressed upon them on all sides. What a reverse did the present scene exhibit! Recent as were the injuries which had been sustained by those who were now liberated from prison, and inflamed as the minds of the various sufferers by the rebellion may be supposed to have been, yet not a reflection was cast by them upon any of the convicts, nor a gesture seen that could disturb them at this awful moment. The sentiment which produced such decorum at such a time, evidently proceeded from the temperate and humane manner in which the law was put in force by the commander in chief, even against those rebels whose conduct had been most flagitious." P. 68.

This interesting narrative is written in plain and perspicuous language, and has every appearance of truth; which is further confirmed by several attestations to the good character and conduct of the writer. We believe this to be the most authentic account of the rebellion at Wexford that has yet been published; and trust it will not only prove of public utility, but,
by

by its produce, alleviate the loss which Mr. Jackson has sustained, and enable him to re-establish himself in his business, and support his family.

ART. XV. *An Answer to the Address of the Right Hon. Henry Grattan, Ex-Representative of the City of Dullin in Parliament, to his Fellow Citizens of Dublin. By Patrick Duigenan, LL. D. a Citizen of Dublin, and one of the Representatives of the City of Armagh in Parliament. Third Edition with Additions.* 8vo. 1c6 pp. Milliken, Dublin. Sold also at Wright's, Piccadilly. 1798.

ALTHOUGH the pamphlet before us does not, as a literary composition, rank in the first class of political writings, yet the very important matter which it contains (illustrating not merely the conduct of a prominent personage, but the state of Ireland and the true source of its late distractions) claims a full and attentive consideration.

Mr. Grattan, in the address which Dr. Duigenan undertakes to answer, had given an account of his political conduct to his late constituents, the citizens of Dublin; in which he arraigned the measures of the English government, with respect to Ireland, almost invariably, from the reign of James the First (inclusive) to the present time. His principal objections are founded on the influence of the British cabinet on the parliament of Ireland, which assembly he calls "a Borough Parliament;" on their refusal to accede to all the claims of the Irish Catholics, and to put them upon an equal footing with the Protestants; and, lastly, on the system of coercion lately adopted by government. As our business is to examine the work of Dr. Duigenan, not that of Mr. Grattan, (which is here only published as an appendix to the former) we shall merely say that we should have deemed many of Mr. G.'s statements fallacious, many of his opinions erroneous, and many of his arguments inconclusive, even if we had not perused Dr. Duigenan's answer. Events that have since happened have indeed thrown a very strong light on Mr. G.'s opinions, as well as afforded a ready answer to the greater part of his address.

Dr. D. begins his attack, by remarking on Mr. Grattan's disregard of the instructions given him by his constituents; his attempts against the Protestant interest in Ireland, and his object in proposing a reform (as it is called) of parliament. His conduct on the dispute respecting the regency is also brought forward, as a proof of a long-formed design to separate Ireland from the British empire. Without deciding on the justice of this

this imputation, the arguments of Dr. D. are certainly well worth the attention of those who may not yet have seen that question fully or ably discussed. But one of the principal charges here adduced against Mr. Grattan, is that of intriguing with the Roman Catholics, to effect a separation of the two kingdoms. To maintain this accusation, his adversary goes into a history of that body of men and of Mr. G.'s connexion with them; which he imputes to the motive, already stated, of effecting a separation of Ireland from Great Britain. On imputations of this kind it would not become us to give a decided opinion. But it certainly is remarkable that, of the nine persons appointed by the Romish Convention as a permanent committee*, three have since been arrested, and are still in custody on a charge of treason, and their secretary has fled the kingdom. In this part of his work we think the author too severe on the memory of Mr. Burke; who, however he might err (as surely he did) in supporting so strenuously the claims of the Irish Catholics, could not harbour the design of separating that kingdom from the British empire, still less of erecting a republic under the protection of France; which, as it now clearly appears, was the design of the chief malecontents.

The conduct of Mr. Grattan during the short administration of Earl Fitzwilliam, is severely commented upon, and more particularly his answer to the address of the meeting of Roman Catholics at Francis-street chapel†; which Dr. D. considers as an incitement to rebellion: and it is, no doubt, replete with violent and intemperate language.

It is impossible, in this account, to follow the author through the historical details he pursues; though they appear to be founded on the best authorities. They respect chiefly the government of Ireland during the reign of James the First, and the massacre of the Irish Protestants in 1641. The account of Mr. Tone and his proceedings is interesting, and appears to be accurate; but how far the inference drawn from thence against Mr. G. is warranted, it is not for us to determine.

The author then discusses at large the measures which Mr. G. has represented as grievances to Ireland, and gives explanations and justifications of each. After a variety of other topics, arising from Mr. G.'s Address, he enters very fully into the two measures, by which alone, according to Mr. G. the

* One of them, Dr. Mc'Nevin, has since very frankly confessed his treasons.

† The address and answer are subjoined to Dr. D.'s work by way of appendix.

disorders of Ireland can be suppressed; namely, *emancipation* and *reform*, (as Mr. G. calls them); but which Dr. D. undertakes to prove really mean "the subversion of the Protestant Establishment in Church and State, and a Republic separate from, and independent of Great Britain."

On the former of these topics, the Doctor shows that, although the attachment of the Catholics to the House of Stuart is at an end, yet a principle as hostile to the constitution has succeeded, (at least in the minds of those with whom Mr. G. was connected) namely "the influence of pure democratic republicanism." To illustrate this point, Dr. D. comments on the publications of their principal writers, particularly a pastoral letter of Dr. Hussey, the titular Bishop of Waterford, and one of Dr. Troy, the titular Archbishop of Dublin. On the former he is particularly severe, and justly so, if his quotations from Dr. Hussey's Letter are fair and accurate. The true impediment to the claim of the Catholics he states, to be not (as Mr. G. had represented) that they refuse to abjure the worship of the Virgin Mary, and the doctrine of the real presence; but that they refuse to take the oath of supremacy, part of which is, that "*no foreign prince, prelate, state, or potentate, hath or ought to have any jurisdiction, power, superiority, pre-eminence, or authority, ecclesiastical or spiritual, within this realm.*" Dr. D. argues, that "it is impossible to divest the supremacy in spirituals of a considerable degree of temporal power;" and shows a case in which the separation of the two powers is impracticable. Having argued at length on this subject, he next justifies the creation of boroughs by King James the First; a measure upon which Mr. Grattan had commented with great severity. But we hasten to the plan of reform proposed for Ireland, and (as Dr. D. states) zealously supported by Mr. Grattan and his party. This consisted, first, in the emancipation, as it was called, of the Catholics, that is the admission of them into parliament, and the great offices of state; secondly, in the dissolution of all corporations in cities, &c. which enjoy the privilege of sending members to parliament, and the division of the kingdom into departments, each department to contain five thousand houses.

"This project of reform, at one stroke cuts down by the root, the parliamentary constitution of Ireland, modelled exactly from that of England; all corporations representable in parliament are to be abolished; and that renounced institution to which Great Britain owes her liberty, her property, and her glory, which she transplanted into this kingdom, and which is here coeval with the constitution, established on the expulsion or rather subjugation of barbarism, is, in the military sense

sense of the word, to be *reformed*; that is, annihilated; Magna Charta, which secures to the subjects all their franchises, is to be defeated; freemen are to lose their franchises; corporations are to be dissolved, without quo warrantos or informations in the nature of quo warrantos, founded on abuses; because freemen in such cases would have a right by law to defend their franchises, and might defeat such attempts; and the old common law, aided by statute law, founded on justice and reason, would not serve your turn. When the public good demands the sacrifice of the private property of a subject, or of the franchise of a corporation, compensation is always made for the loss; no compensation is offered by your scheme to the freemen to be disfranchised for the loss of their franchises: But the injustice to individuals is not the most noxious part of your proposed dose for remedying the alleged maladies of the state, the interest of individuals, I admit, must give way to the general interest of the whole community; the deadly effect of such a poisonous drug on the body politic, and the felonious administration of it, I mean to explain, prevent, and reprobate." P. 170.

Dr. D. proceeds to show that, upon this plan, "two hundred and eighty members of the House of Commons would be elected by the beggars, the labourers, the artizans depending for their existence on their daily labour, and by other indigent classes of the community; and the only representation of all real and personal property in the House of Commons would consist of sixty-four members, the representatives of counties." He argues on the probability that four fifths, if not five sixths of the House of Commons, would consist of Roman Catholics; the danger of which (considering the situation and characters of the greater part of them) he places in a very strong light. He explains also the confusion that would arise from the changes of local population in Ireland; which would require a constant variation in the limits of the proposed departments, and at every election a new division of the kingdom.

The last topic of this answer is the alledged grievance of the influence of the English Cabinet in Ireland. On this head we think Dr. D.'s arguments just, and such as no friend to the countries would controvert: but we cannot afford room to detail them here.

We cannot conclude this article without observing, that the subsequent events in Ireland have, in a great measure, decided the important controversy respecting the measures pursued in that kingdom. It has appeared, by the confession of the leaders of the late revolt, that Catholic *emancipation*, and parliamentary *reform*, (as they are improperly called) were mere pretexts, to cover the views of those who aimed at the subversion of legal government, and the establishment of a ferocious Jacobin republic. It has also been manifested,

tested, (by the conduct of a large body of Catholics) that had they been entrusted, as Mr. Grattan wished, with all the political power with which those measures would have invested them, no wisdom could probably have averted the ruin of the Irish constitution, in church and state, and the separation of that kingdom from Great Britain.

Upon the whole, this political tract, though prolix in its statements, and sometimes rather coarse in its language, details many important facts, contains many forcible arguments, and affords much valuable information respecting the state of our sister kingdom.

ART. XVI. *Sixteen Sermons, on various Subjects. By the Rev. Dr. Henry Owen, late Rector of St. Olave, Hart-Street, and many Years Vicar of Edmonton, Middlesex. 8vo. 351 pp. 7s. Rivingtons. 1797.*

TOWARDS the end of the year 1795, this valuable author, and excellent divine, at the age of eighty, closed a life which had been diligently employed in the study of Christian knowledge, and the practice of clerical duty. He was a native of Merionethshire, and finished his education at Jesus College, Oxford. For a short period he is said to have practised physic, though already in orders; but having accepted of a curacy, from that time devoted his studies to divinity. His first publication was "a short Treatise on Trigonometry"; but the works by which he is much better known, and will be long remembered, are his "Observations on Scripture Miracles", "Remarks on the Four Gospels", "Directions to young Students in Divinity", "An Enquiry into the Septuagint Version", two volumes of "Sermons, preached at Boyle's Lectures", "An Introduction to Hebrew Criticism," and "The Modes of Quotation used by the Evangelical Writers, explained and vindicated." In all these works he amply displayed both a sound erudition and a true piety, supported by all the acuteness attendant on superior talents. We are sorry to add, that, after such meritorious exertions, he died so low in circumstances, that the present volume was printed chiefly as a mode of obtaining an assistance very necessary to his widow and daughters. We hope, and we have been informed, that the effort has been successful; but we trust also that the operation of it is not yet at an end, and that our present notice of Dr. Owen's Sermons will inform many who feel a laudable ardour

dour to distinguish merit, at how *easy* a rate they may still do good to the family of an excellent man.

An apology is made in a short advertisement, written by the son of the author, for the nature of the Sermons, as not having been intended for the public eye, or to meet the examination of criticism. The truth indeed is, that though the sentiments in them are very useful, and the divinity perfectly sound, they have not those singular excellencies, which would have adorned a work that this author had prepared for publication. They would not alone have given him the kind of fame he so justly possesses; though they are by no means likely to impair it. Without descending to more minute criticism, on a work so circumstanced, we shall insert the following passage, as a proof that the contents of the volume, if not such as Dr. Owen might have produced, are such as would have conferred fame on a writer not already eminent. After speaking of the Rejection of our Saviour by the Jews, he says, in Sermon VI.

" These things happened to the Jews for ensamples; and they are written for our admonition;—to the intent, that *we* may be more careful to prepare ourselves to meet our Lord, than *they* were formerly.

" Christ comes now *virtually* to us, as in time past he *personally* came to *them*; and therefore it behoves us, to be ready to give him a fit reception. He comes to *us* now in his word and ordinances; and it concerns us diligently to attend to his word, and faithfully to observe his ordinances.

" We know to whom the word was preached, and yet did not profit them; and we know the reasons of its proving fruitless. With this knowledge, let us firmly bear in mind, that the same causes will always produce the same effects:—that the same prejudices, lusts, and passions, that prompted the *Jews* to oppose our Saviour, and to reject his Gospel, will, wherever they take place, lead other men to follow their example:—to think lightly of the Christian Religion, to live in a contemptuous neglect of its ordinances, and in open violation of its laws and precepts.

" This is an alarming consideration—and ought to put every one of us on his guard against all sinful tempers and perverse habits, that bear any affinity to those of the Jews; which were the great obstacles at first to their receiving the MESSIAH; and the great impediments afterwards to their believing his doctrines.

" If the mean opinion, which the Jews entertained of CHRIST, on account of his low appearance, led them to despise him, as a person unfit to be their SAVIOUR; let us take warning from hence, that we never suffer the high conceptions we have of our own reason, to disparage the plainness and simplicity of the Gospel; or to think it an unlikely scheme of salvation.

" If a base and sordid love of the world, tempted the Pharisees to turn a deaf ear to our SAVIOUR's sublime and heavenly doctrines; let

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us take heed, and beware of covetousness;—and indeed of every immoderate attachment to the things of earth; lest we be carried by interest to deny the faith; or be tempted by profit to transgress the commands of God in practice. For we find, from early times, that when 'the cares of this world, the deceitfulness of riches, and the lust of other things, enter in,' and take possession of the heart; they are sure to choke every good principle, and to render fruitless every good instruction. Those who are eager in laying up for themselves treasures on earth, even the promise of an "inheritance incorruptible in the heavens" cannot affect. This world is the whole of their care; and godliness is to them nothing, unless it can be made an instrument of gain. But further—

"If pride and self-conceit, if a vain affectation of superior knowledge, prevented the Scribes from coming to CHRIST, and listening to his plain and easy discourses; let us then be admonished, 'not to think more highly of ourselves than we ought to think, but to think soberly'—'casting down all vain imaginations and presumptuous reasonings, that would oppose the revelation of God; and bringing into captivity every swelling thought to the obedience of the Gospel of CHRIST;' and forming our practice by the example of that master, who was so peculiarly 'meek and lowly' both in mind and manners. Finally,

"If hypocrisy and malice had so blinded the Jews, that they could not discern the light of the Gospel, even when it shone around them: If their hypocrisy had obscured and well-nigh extinguished all sense of religion and morality among them; and if their malice was continually plotting against Him, who compassionately laboured to work their reformation; with how jealous an eye should we watch over ourselves, that these vices may not infect us! For they are vices, you see, that will directly lead us to 'turn the grace of God into wickedness;' and to reject the good purpose of his benevolence, to our eternal and unspeakable detriment." P. 111.

Our recommendation of the volume will surely be much strengthened by a passage like this; and many others of equal merit might be selected.

ART. XVII. *Public Spirit; a Lyric Poem; occasioned by the exemplary Zeal, Resolution, and Decorum, uniformly manifested by the Yeomanry Corps of Ireland, in the sacred Cause of their King and Country. To which are prefixed, An Address to the Right Hon. Thomas Pelham; and Observations on the Irregular Ode. Second Edition.* 8vo. 58 pp. Dublin, printed by N. Kelly, No. 6, South Great George's Street. 1797.

VERY happy are we to announce, though somewhat late, a production, the genuine offspring of that virtue from which its name is taken, under the guidance of a sound understanding,

derstanding, and illuminated by poetical genius of no mean powers. We cannot indeed point out where it may be had in London, but from Dublin it may easily be procured; and should either the reasonings, or the admonitions, contained in the prose or verse of the author, be thought to entitle it to that distinction, it may at a small expence be reprinted. It has, we understand, been circulated in Ireland with good effect; particularly in supporting and invigorating that noble spirit of patriotic loyalty, by which the Yeomanry corps of that country have been so gloriously distinguished in the hour of trial.

No part of this publication ought to be overlooked. The politics of the Introductory Address are argumentative and eloquent; the criticisms that follow are sound and sensible; and the Ode itself, if not of the first order of Lyric, has sufficient vigour and merit to ensure it a respectable place in the second class. We have seldom, very seldom, seen the great question of parliamentary *reform* (as it is improperly termed) treated in a more perspicuous and manly style than in the following passage:

“ But, Sir, independently of all these seemingly immovable difficulties, they that propose a reform—I would rather say *change*, or subversion, of the constitution, have to consider, that though they could defeat the arguments of many most able politicians, foreign as well as domestic, who, in consideration of its paramount excellence, have cautioned us against innovating upon it; though they could shew that the several circumstances which they consider as its imperfections, are truly such; though they could manifest that all these are removable, and may be removed without emasculating its vigor, or abating its dignity, yet, they could not in reason expect to find any support in the confidence of a wise nation, unless they could likewise shew, that to qualify them effectually and happily to accomplish reform, they are gifted with such an almost limitless comprehension of mind, as, on trial, would be found yet more than equal to the aggregated wisdom of those illustrious times, whose noblest production they affect to criticize; whose deficiencies they promise to supply; and whose errors they propose to correct.

“ I presume, Sir, even the advocates of reform will not pretend to deny, that, with a question, evidently of moment to every individual of every class of the community—a question which, being immediately directed against the settled order of the constitution, is directed against that, by which alone the rights whence society derives its worth, and the human name its dignity, are rendered unequivocal and secure, nothing dubious, indefinite, or indecisive, should be mingled. I am, therefore, warranted, for myself, and in the name of all those who are desirous to retain the most perfect security for a rational and dignifying enjoyment of property, liberty, and life, that a people has ever yet inherited, to protest against the uncertainty, subtlety, and delusiveness of the words *a reform of parliament*. They are superlatively vague; indeterminate; inconclusive. They are calculated to apply, without discrimi-

mination or restraint, to any purpose which those that adopt them may be desirous to attempt. They may mean an extremely partial, or a total change. They may mean, what, more than once, has been explicitly enough demanded, a *representative parliament*; that is to say, a parliament wholly and in all its estates, to be elected. They may mean a legislature entirely democratic. They may mean an abrogation of chartered immunities, in a total disfranchisement of the boroughs. They may mean that *equal and uncorrupt* representation, which those who have demanded it, and who have promised they will do their duty to procure, may obtain, so soon as they shall be able to populate the world with perfections. Or, they may mean, either a representative body foolishly epitomised; or such a widely-extended representation, as might be found in some degree proportioned to the idly coveted privilege of unqualified and, as it is called, universal suffrage: a privilege, which even Paine has reprobated; which France, from the sure testimony of experience, confesses is not to be realized: and which, if capable of an extensive degree of realization, would, in a like degree, be objectionable; as, on occasions evidently demanding a conscientious exercise of a regulated mind, it would annex to the act of the ignorant and of the vicious, who, in all countries, constitute far more than a majority, not less efficacy than to that of the intelligent and virtuous; as, consequently, it would enable the former, contradictorily to every prescript of good policy, to prevail at elections; and, as, by abrogating the representation of property, it would diminish the importance which, in all wise nations, ever has been and ought to be attached to it; and of course, tend to abate the very passion that, encouraging almost every individual to aspire, operates as one of the most powerful incentives to industry." P. 6.

On the point of Catholic emancipation, he urges one of the principal agitators of Ireland with the following dilemma.

"With this question of reform, the artifice of the times has, very dexterously, contrived, almost inseparably to couple another, which, in one word, expresses matter so very interesting, that, could it be substantiated, all the feelings of the soul would consociate to support it. But, Sir, if credit is to be given to the published opinion of the very popular character to whom I have made myself so much a debtor,* what, as to the claim of emancipation, can be thought, but that its whole merits might be discussed in a single sentiment, and cradled in a nut-shell. Yes, Sir—and unknown to you though I am, you may implicitly believe what I shall now assert—he to whom I allude, and who is said to be in possession of the most awful secret of the soul of Ulster; he who is hallowed by United Irishmen, and in whom Defenderism has found a Tully; even he, no longer back than ninety-four, not only pronounced, in the hearing of hundreds of his applauding countrymen, that the "emancipation of the Catholics *had received* the sanction of the legislature;" but, as if then to impress the assertion indelibly on every mind, again and again argued that "they *were* emancipated;" that they had "demanded emancipation and *got* it;" and that, in their emancipation "justice *had* a triumph over bigotry and oppres-

sion, and three millions of men," that is to say, a greater number than the whole Catholic body, male and female, can reckon, "were reclaimed from bondage." Nevertheless, Sir, as if he had discovered the wonderful arcanum by which he could *liberate* liberty and *defend* the free, not very many days have passed, since, with no prophet's voice I trust, he assured the Exchange convention, that "upon, *his* honour, he did believe that the nation could not be saved but by a reform of parliament" on the one hand; and, on the other, by an act which, according to his own repeated declarations, cannot be possible, "the emancipation" of men who stand emancipated already. I would now submit to the judgment of even the most artless character amongst those whom craft and treachery have allured to array themselves against their own dearest interests, their country, the laws, and their king, whether any value should be annexed to the plighted "*bonheur*" of a man, who, as I have proved, has now no choice but to be considered as a retailer of fallacy in ninety-four; or, for the purpose of sustaining the outcry of an evidently interested opposition, and of affording a plea to insurgency, a retailer of fallacy in ninety-seven. Either, at the former period, "three millions of men had a *triumph* in emancipation," or they had not. If they had *not*, what a miserable return did *he* make for the exuberant confidence of Catholicism, who affirmed that they *had*? And, if they *had*, how false to truth, how faithless to them, and how regardless of the disasters of the times must he appear, who, in a renewed demand of emancipation—that work which, wherever to be accomplished, is a work for a god—pronounces they *had not*? These, Sir, are most simple, most true, and, therefore, most powerful facts; and, as such, considering the intuitive candour of the Irish mind, may I not hope that they shall not pass into the world without inducing those at least who can think, and are disposed to think truly, most vigilantly to guard against that political duplicity of which they are proofs; and which, whether we reason from the experience of past times, or the enormity of modern practices, we must conclude, will, in all the varieties of transformation, be exerted to delude the people, so long as the sons of eloquence shall, like other men, have a clamorous host of wants, and wishes, and anxieties, and infelicities, to appease; and continue, as at present, not seemingly forgetful that great endowments were given for great ends, but evidently willing to tread on talent and principle, that they may raise themselves to popularity; and on popularity, that they may raise themselves to power. If not to perjury of this kind, to what shall we impute the unabating industry with which impracticable politics and distracting opinions are still disseminated? To what shall we impute the efforts of those vain-glorious innovators who, scorning to direct attention to possible and particular improvement, propose, from the very dust and ashes of demolished systems, and with an impious affectation of almighty power, to call forth, in all the perfection of youth and efficiency, the Phoenix universal reform? To what shall we impute the inveterate obtinacy of others who, having argued ability into contempt, and even genius into degradation, continue their endeavours logically to render sedition reputable, and to pervert the reason of the land into madness? To what shall we impute the still subsisting influence of that prostituted philosophy
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which, affecting to subdue impossibilities; and to reduce contradictions to accord, would establish *revolutionary* governments; *murder* with the hand of justice; *pillage* legally; *force* loans; *compel* man to be free; evince the *sovereignty* of the people by Bastiles in every province, and executioners for every Bastile; *conciliate* the conquered by acts of unrelenting rapine; *regenerate* by destroying; *justify* means however however fatal, by the end, however remote; *strengthen* society by debauching its principles; and *annihilate* the being of the author of all being by vote? To what shall we impute the multiplied terrors of solicited invasion, and the increased rage of insurrectionary spirit which, having resisted the temperate rule of constitutional power; having rejected almost all that mercy could offer consistently with her name; having violated the most sacred rights of personal security and property; having manifested a determination to mix in one common massacre the conscientious magistrate, evidence, and juror; and having, to perfect the climax of atrocity, avowed universal subversion as its principle, presumes, nevertheless, to demand a repeal of those defensive statutes, which, called into being by its own enormities, and calculated to repress and chastise them and them only, that very demand, beyond whatever argument could utter, proves to be, not only just and necessary, but absolutely indispensable? And finally, to what shall we impute the conduct of those complaining friends of their country, who whine over the fancied infirmities of the gray-age of a constitution which is superior to their help; who overlook, in the external calamity inseparable from war, the yet greater calamity of revolution which it has averted; and whose ready tears invite us to ascribe to a most tender sensibility the horror they express at a continuance of our contest with that implacable and usurping nation, which, though borne down by need and oppression; though as yet ignorant of the kind of religion and polity for which it fights, and whether it fights for any known kind of either; though practised in every named and nameless terror and crime; though afraid, from a tried incapacity, to exclude "the compunctious visitings of nature," either to review the past or to anticipate the future; though sick at soul, and persevering but from despair, has assumed, with the tone and air of a conqueror, to tell us we may have a peace; such a peace as she shall dictate; a peace most barren as to us and fruitful as to her; a poor, purchased, pitiful, degrading, ignominious, ruinous peace; and, but as yesterday, threatened, while on our coast, to subvert our temples, to silence our laws, to annihilate public property and faith, and to shake our constitution to its very base? Yet, Sir, however many and menacing the evils to which, in these countries, in Ireland particularly speculative politics and revolutionary perfidy have given birth, I should violate my own opinion of the proud spirit of my countrymen, of that legitimate spirit, before which, as at the touch of the blasting element of heaven, the presumption of France has hitherto been accustomed to wither, were I to imply the possibility of a suspicion that they can otherwise operate than still more closely to unite the great, the opulent, the intelligent, the virtuously industrious; all who serve God with fear, and have property and principles to defend; and to incite them, by every act that a rational sense of the sure and unequalled blessings of their situation can suggest, to convince the world that

that they are not to be rivalled in attachment to the land of their birth, by an enemy who, lost as yet to faith to fame and to freedom, and influenced solely by the maledicted and deceptive name of a country, still seems to act in defiance of suffering. Thus consolidating strength and illustriously resolved, they shall stand secure, though, perhaps, not absolutely unassailable." P. 6.

Speaking of the present French government in an ensuing passage, this author calls it, with peculiar and original energy, "that multifarious monster, which was engendered by the French savage; Usurpation, on the French prostitute, Philosophy." The encomium on the volunteer association of Ireland with which this Address concludes, is too well deserved to be omitted.

"From this view of patriotism and loyalty in their most simple state, the transition is easy to a noble and exhilarating prospect of both, as they are displayed in that army of *freemen*, of *royalists*, of *volunteers*, in the hallowed cause of humanity and of Ireland, which embraces the constitution, and exults in the idea of having legitimately derived existence from the royal origin of military distinction. These are proud words; but are they not suitably employed in describing a body which has never been surpassed by any defensive association; nor, times being considered, perhaps equalled? But, why have I proposed the question? You, sir, behold that army through a correct medium. You consider it as a living eulogy on the excellence of our establishments. You regard it as a correct commentary on the superlative worth as well of our military as of our civil code. It is, however, more. It is an army of truth opposed to treachery; of virtue to vice; and of liberty and loyalty to licentiousness and disaffection. It is an army which, while republican strength is but another name for desolation, protects; while republican pride would universally dominate, saves; and, while republican philosophy would confirm the wildest theories and most deadly prejudices by the logic of the bayonet, exists for a constitutional maintenance of every right that social nature demands; that the Author of nature sanctifies; that describes the whole dignity of sublunary existence as concentrated in the human name; renders us respectable subjects, and fit servants of God; sheds odours upon our thresholds; exhilarates us at our boards; and gives to us multiplied life and felicity, in the security and happiness of our families and friends. In fact, sir, it is an army which cannot be regarded but with admiration and praise, whether we recollect its independency, information and soldiership, or its being held together by an unexampled cordiality of brotherhood; uniformity of purpose; congeniality of sentiments; and similarity of hope." P. 9.

In the Observations on the Irregular Ode, the author modestly and very judiciously combats the opinion of Dr. Johnson on the subject of that species of poem, and on blank verse. But instead of endeavouring to depreciate the man (like Mr. Browe

know, whom we have already noticed) be thus ably, justly and consistently sustained by a different one:

"There is something that is all worth is valuable," and with a due sense of common-sense, these observations have been made. We know it not to agree with error, and who amongst his contemporaries we are to admire? For his faults, little atonement is necessary to the perfection the highest praise is due. After all, as was his nature, constant as was his manufacturing, and productive as was his pen, we must not expect he should be disengaged to poetry, is only short of it. We can expect nothing more than the abilities of the artist, occupying only the mental excursions of the man." P. 31.

From the One itself we shall feel & a part, which is not only distinguished for poetical spirit, but pays a well-deserved tribute of commendation to some persons highly and justly eminent in Ireland.

• That Prince-Prince! had to thee,
That end of moral dignity!
Full from-born and from-bred,
Who were a Freedom's before A.D.,
And with such manuscript eyes,
What of Johnson's sentence tries;
Hear, with all the force of skill,
To see her heart of every ill!
Full now, whose life has now glow
Near the virgin breast of snow,
Quivering, for glad existence there,
Such virtues as shall suit the fair,
Who shall each other blessing raise,
But cannot still wish to be free!
But in white circles his serene,
A V. Johnson's secrets are sent!
There the frame precluding Art!
And capture a nation's heart,

• • He that in principles is a patriot, and, by consequence, attached to the general welfare of the British empire, will ever be proud to consider the dissenting ones, as co-partners in praise, and co-laborers in glory; and, therefore, will hold the sentiment I have adopted, a testimony of the influencing principle of each, rather than of the inert material virtue of an individual nation. Cemented as our affections should be, by the similarity of their constitution, laws, language, manners, customs and spirit; he will be solicitous to give currency and establishment to such an endearing idea; from a persuasion, that whatever is efficacious to their happiness and renown, may as well, and can any be found, in community of opinion, and in union of resources."

• • The late truly excellent Countess of Westmorland. See her character minutely delineated, in *The Tears of the Muse*, p. 15.

And

And bid the critic Reason find,
What best he honours, in her mind,
A mind to Sorrow's sigh all ear!
All eye, when Anguish drops a tear!
All fancy, when the works of Art
Would further grace to life impart!
All judgment when the Attic page,
Reproves to mend an erring age!—
Hail thou that shalt respect command,
Whether beheld with open hand,
Intent, as now, the gift to deal*
That may promote thy country's weal;
Or, to maintain her rights and laws,
The hero of a hallow'd cause,
Wielding aloft the falchion bold,
Which shall dismay, as wont of old
At Agincourt and Cressy's field,
Where crouching France was seen to yield;
She, in a madd'ning lust of change,
That would in quest of freedom range;
Not that which British codes explain;
Not that which marks a *George's* reign;
Just, manly, practical, secure,
The equal bliss of rich and poor!
But, such as, feign'd by many a pen,
Would make as Gods created men!
Would shew the world, what ne'er it saw,
A beauteous monster!—perfect law?
For that she scoff'd at truth and God!
For that defy'd his vengeful rod!
Resign'd sure bliss! abjur'd her lox!
Her palaces and thrones forgot!
And, though of late by empires priz'd,
Bends to the slaves herself chastiz'd!—
Hail thou, of manly look serene,
In which the candid mind is seen,
Whose vig'rous glow of steady die,
Whose heart that dares each foe defy,
Attest thou wert not form'd to fear,
Though Slav'ry's alien hosts appear;
Those that, heart-daunted, yet shall fly
The terrors flashing from thine eye,
And in their flight confusion meet,
And ruin in their wild retreat!
All hail! whom Honour calls his child!
Not priz'd by Faction weak or wild;

* "Alluding to the very timely and productive subscription, so nobly proposed and aided by Lady Camden, for the purpose of providing comfortable raiment for such of the soldiery as should be called into active duty."

Nor priz'd but there, where ev'n the poor,
 Find Freedom guard the cottage door!—
 Ah me! and shall thy Britain own,
 One truant son, to thee unknown,
 Who, though she claim that filial care,
 Which he, unask'd, should freely share,
 Still whiles away, in alien bow'rs,
 The giddy vain voluptuous hours,
 Nor nobly sighs to gain the shade,
 Where Truth in Glory's lap is laid?" P. 48.

" We have taken a passage which happens to run in one measure only ; but we ought to inform our readers, that the measure is often varied in the course of the composition. As impartial critics, we must not conceal that the author is sometimes too bold in the use of unauthorized terms ; as " *painture*" for painting ; to " *subserve*," as a verb, &c. and (in his prose particularly) rather too fond of long and obscure words, more than Johnſon. But his merits, as will be ſeen, very far outweigh theſe trivial defects.

ART. XVIII. *A complete View of the Chinese Empire, exhibited in a Geographical Description of that Country, a Dissertation on its Antiquity, and a genuine and copious Account of Earl Macartney's Embassy from the King of Great Britain to the Emperor of China.* 8vo. 456 pp. 7s. Cawthorne. 1798.

THE attention of the public having been greatly excited by the Embassy to China, ſome information upon the condition and extent of this country itſelf was naturally ſought with avidity. The manner in which the undertaking terminated, however it may have cauſed curioſity in great meaſure to ſubſide, does not deſtroy that intereſt which the project inſpired.

The Embassy will remain upon the face of hiſtory, as an event of ſome importance in the magnitude of its object ; and every thing which tends to throw light upon it will be found uſeful in the hands of future hiſtorians.

The account here given of the Embassy is full and circumſtantial ; and the compiler appears to have performed his duty with much correſtneſs and attention. The Deſcription of China, and the Eſſay upon its Antiquity prefixed to the account, render the publication particularly valuable.

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The Essay upon the Antiquity is manifestly the production of no ordinary mind. The observations it contains are ingenious, solid, and enlightened. We shall present our readers with an extract from the close of this Essay, which, in our judgment at least, is equally curious and important.

“ A curious discovery, made by the Missionaries of late years in China, well deserves notice in this place, though it cannot be brought forward as an evidence of the principal points advanced in this discourse. This is the discovery of a synagogue and a Jewish colony, who appeared in China under the dynasty of Han, whose reign began in the year 206 before Christ. This colony now consists only of a few families, who reside at Cal-fong, the metropolis of *Ho-nan*.

“ The Jesuit who visited them accurately describes their synagogue, which agrees exactly with what the Jews have elsewhere. He adds, moreover, ‘ That these Chinese Jews, who are here called *Tiao-kin-kiao*, have preserved several of the ceremonies in the Old Testament; as *circumcision*, which they say they had from Abraham; the *feast of unleavened bread*, the *pascchal lamb*, the *sabbath*, and other Mosaic festivals.

“ These people at present consist of seven families, called *Tbao, Kin, Che, Tse-man, Li, Ngai*, who intermarry only with themselves.

“ There is but one synagogue in the whole province. It has no altar, nor any other furniture except the chair of Moses, with a censer, a table, and chandeliers. This building is divided into three aisles, the middle one occupied by the table of incense, the chair of Moses, a painting inscribed with the name of the Emperor, and thirteen tabernacles, containing as many copies of the Pentateuch.

“ In answer to the enquiry, whether they did homage to *Confucius*, they replied that they paid him the same honour as the rest of the learned men did, and that they assisted in the solemn ceremonies which are performed to great men. But they observed, that though they practised certain rites twice a year to the honour of their ancestors, after the Chinese manner, yet they never presented them with swine’s flesh.

“ These Jews call their law the law of Israel, *Kjelals-kiao*, which they also term *Kou-kiao*, the *ancient law*, *Tien-kiao*, the *law of God*, and *Tinkien-kiao*, signifying that they abstain from blood. They said that their ancestors came from a kingdom of the west, called *Judab*, which was conquered by Joshua, after their departure from Egypt and their passage over the Red Sea, through the Wilderness. They mentioned also the most eminent persons spoken of in the Old Testament scriptures, such as David, Solomon, and Ezekiel, who raised up dry bones; and Jonas, who was three days and three nights in the belly of the fish, &c. from which it is evident that they are in possession of the historical and prophetical scriptures.

“ They informed the Missionary that their alphabet now consists only of twenty-two letters, though it had originally twenty-seven. They neither kindle a fire nor dress any victuals on the seventh day, but prepare all that is necessary on the day preceding. In reading their scriptures in the synagogue, they cover their faces with a transparent vail,

was, in commemoration of Moses, who covered his face when he descended from the mountain with the holy tables.

"When the Missionary spoke to them of the Messiah predicted in the sacred writings, they expressed their astonishment; but when he added that this Messiah was called *Jesus*, they replied that a holy person of that name was mentioned in their bible, but that he was called the son of *Sirach*.

"This ascertains the time when the Jewish colony first emigrated, which must have been after the second captivity.

"It is greatly to be regretted that more accurate enquiries into the history or traditions of this people have not been made. So remarkable a circumstance as this ought not to have been suffered to lie dormant after the discovery was published. For, though the Chinese history may not be elucidated by the research, yet that of a people equally interesting cannot but be greatly illuminated by a particular examination of this wonderful fragment of ancient Israel."

Upon the whole, this publication is respectable, and may be safely recommended to those who wish to possess, upon moderate terms, a complete memorial of the late Embassy, together with some valuable information upon the affairs of China.

BRITISH CATALOGUE.

POETRY.

ART. 19. *Naucratis; or, Naval Dominion. A Poem. By Henry James Pyle. Second Edition, with Additions. 4to. 3s. 6d. Nicol. 1798.*

We have before noticed with the praise it deserved, this truly spirited Poem. The additions to be found in this edition, are principally an animated apostrophe in honour of Lord Nelson, and his immortal triumph. We insert part of this with pleasure.

"And lo! where Nile, from Egypt's fruitful shores,
Sworn to the sea his delug'd current pours.
The din of battle sounds—near seats, of old
Where seers and saints immortal tidings told,
An atheist warrior with gigantic pride
The armies of the living God defied.—

Britannia's

Britannia's sons the threat with horror bear,
 And fearing Heaven, disclaim all other fear,
 By valour fir'd, by gallant Nelson led,
 Free to the winds the red-cross banners spread.
 In vain the close-moor'd ships their anchors keep
 A massy bulwark floating on the deep,
 In vain tremendous from the circling shore
 With brazen throat the threat'ning batteries roar;
 The dauntless heroes plow the casanguin'd tide,
 The avenging angel thundering on their side.
 Whelm'd in the deep while Gallia's navy lies,
 Or bursts in fiery atoms to the skies.
 And wild Arabia's desultory bands,
 The fight surveying from surrounding lands,
 With shouts of triumph greet the conquering host,
 And England's fame illumines Egypt's coast.
 So by high Heaven's mysterious judgments sent,
 As bolts of wrath or rods of mercy meant,
 O'er earth's green lap the swarming locusts pour,
 And all the hopes of human toil devour;
 Till the dread host perform'd, the almighty breath
 Sweeps to the waves the baleful race of death." P. 74.

A2T. 20. *Malvern, a descriptive and historical Poem.* By Luke Barker.
 LL. D. dedicated to the Right Hon. Julia, Viscountess Dudley and
 Ward. 4to. 124 pp. 3s. 6d. Dudley printed, for Brooke and
 Co. Cheapside. 1798.

Malvern Hills were lately celebrated by another poet, and in blank
 verse also. (See Brit. Crit. September, p. 303.) There was, we think,
 more fire and animation in that poem; but in this is the greater share
 of instruction; and the poetry is above mediocrity. The following
 celebration of some personages in that neighbourhood is marked with
 judgment, and the general wish for our senators is poetical as well as
 constitutional:

Fast by these mountains, in a shelter'd glade,
 Rise, Maddersfield, thy woods; whither retires
 From patriot labours (never with a heart
 Reproach'd by breach of duty) LYCOM ost'
 (Foley's compeer) to Britain's councils sent,
 Sent by his grateful country. In yon vale
 (Once bearing Evesham's name renown'd afar)
 The wide-extended landscape Croome adorns;
 Whose groves immortal shade the honour'd head
 Of COUNTRY'S good EARL, in station first
 Rank'd o'er his province; the distinguish'd meed
 Of highest worth—his sov'reign's just esteem.
 Unclouded be the evening of his days!
 And like the sun that sets, serenely bright,
 May he, o'er his well-cultivated plains,
 Felicity diffuse, and Peace, and Joy!

Long

Long, Senators of England's happy realm !
 Where equal rights a free-born people share,
 Long, in your ancient and paternal seats
 Live honour'd, and your eminent stations fill.
 Blessing the shire that hails you—that oft pours
 (Where festive blis and harmony preside)
 Libations sparkling to your names rever'd." P. 14.

This poem is in three books, and includes a description and celebration of Worcester; with many episodical illustrations from history, which increase the interest of the whole.

ART. 21. *Ode to Lord Nelson, on his Conquest in Egypt.* By Harmer-
 dins. 4to. 1s. Egerton. 1798.

This is a very spirited effusion, as the reader will perceive, from the following apostrophe to Peace.

Avails it the victorious palm to vain,
 If still our Albion, Queen of Isles in vain,
 Thy absence, genial Peace, must mourn;
 Ah! when shall each dejected vale,
 Each hill, and plain, sweet stranger hail,
 The blessings of thy kind return!
 Thy silver streamers fluttering to the gale,
 Once floated long upon our towers,
 Thou once didst love thy Albion's bowers, &c. &c.

In the last line, *didst* is printed *did*, by a mistake, it is presumed, of the press. The poem contains many agreeable and animated passages; and the compliment to Lord Nelson's piety, at the conclusion, is as just, as the epithet *forlorn*, applied to Britannia in the line which follows, is ill-timed and inapplicable.

ART. 22. *Henry and Ansto: a moral Tale. In Three Parts.* By the Rev. Brian Hill, A.M. late of Queen's College, Oxford; Chaplain to the Earl of Keven and Melville; and Author of *Travels through Sicily and Calabria.* Dedicated, by Permission, to the Right Honourable Lady Kenyon. 8vo. 5s. Stockdale. 1798.

This moral tale is intended to exhibit the various temptations incident to young men in their intercourse with the world, and more particularly points out the force of example, either in the cause of virtue or of vice. The story is well conducted, and the precepts it inculcates, are those of benevolence and religion. The ideas perhaps are not new, nor the verse particularly harmonious; but the object and tendency are such, as entitle the author to very high commendation. The following lines will afford a specimen of the poetry, and its morality.

Ye sons of mirth! who with prepos't'rous joy,
 The night in riot's frantic scenes employ,
 Say, where's the blis to revel at the least,
 To drop the manhood and assume the beast?
 To lose all self control, and, madly vain,
 The bounds of sober wisdom to disdain?

Think,

Think, as ye fill the mantling goblet high,
 How *your* excess the needy would supply !
 How what inebriates *you*, would cheer the faint,
 How what destroys *your* health, would ease *his* plaint :
 So shall two virtues from one action flow,
 And Charity in self-denial grow."

If *from* were added in the place of *in*, it would be better ; and we would recommend this alteration to the following line, it stands thus:

The tear, that trembled in her crysfall'd eye.
 It should be rather,
The crysfall tear, that trembled in her eye.

Crysfall being much more applicable to the tear than to the eye.

ART. 23. *Poems on various Subjects, by Mary Ann Chantrell, of Newington Butts.* 8vo. 109 pp. 3s. Symonds. 1798.

The Muses of Newington Butts do not appear to be quite *Sicilian Muses*. This lady begins an Address to her Subscribers thus:

" When Fancy to me her assistance first lent,
 To amuse my own thoughts was my only intent.
 The wish of a few partial friends *have* prevailed
 O'er the vanity their soothing flattery assailed.
 Yet, ere I consented in print to appear,
 'Twas requisite courage should teach me to bear
 The laugh of the critic, the sneer of contempt,
 With Ridicule's smile at the foolish attempt."

However we may be inclined to *smile*, Mrs. C. need not fear any *criticism* from us. Looking further into her book, we find that her verses deserve praise as loyal, and observe with satisfaction a list of Subscribers, that prove they have not been unproductive.

ART. 24. *A Congratulatory Poem on the Escape of Sir Sidney Smith from France, and his happy Arrival in England.* 4to. 25 pp. 2s. Hatchard, and Rivingtons. 1798.

The zeal of friendship is more conspicuous in this poem than the fire of genius: yet the latter is not wholly wanting. The poem opens with spirit.

" From that perfidious, that degraded land,
 Where Guilt and Rapine reign without control ;
 Where Anarchy hurls wide her flaming brand,
 And deeds of horror freeze the harrow'd soul :
 From that fell *Temple*, where, with scowling face,
 The base, dark Regicide, remorseless eyes
 The bleeding forms of Bourbon's fallen race,
 And round them hosts of gory victims rise :—
 Welcome to light and liberty once more !
 Welcome to ev'ry heart on greeting Albion's shore !"

It goes on to relate the several actions of Sir Sidney Smith, his capture, and escape; which last the author attributes to the gratitude of some

some friend : but on this point he does not fully explain himself. It concludes with an affectionate congratulation to the father of his hero. Some passages in this poem are rather obscure, and several lines weak or inaccurate in the expression. Yet, upon the whole, it is entitled to a respectable rank among the productions of a personal and temporary nature.

ART. 25. *The Warning, a poetical Address to Britons. To which is added, a Report of the Proceedings of the Whig Club, at their Meeting, May 1st, 1798, in a poetical Epistle from Henry Buxton, in Town, to his Brother in the Country.* 8vo. 46 pp. 1s. 6d. Hatchard. 1798.

The first of these poems is an attempt to describe and reprobate the principles that have produced, and the enormities that have attended, the revolution in France. The author's intention is highly laudable ; but, *neq. Dis neq. viribus equis.* He seems not to have any talent for poetry. Almost the whole of *The Warning* is prosaic ; and we meet with such rhymes as *reveals and tales ; fools and souls*, and (yet worse) *Gauls and laws, smiled and pride.* The following passage is by far the best in the Poem. Yet it is closely copied (and, in some parts, almost word for word) from Goldsmith's *Deserted Village*.

“ How sweet the scene beneath the ev'ning skies !

Up the green hill the village murmurs rise,
There, as with easy steps and slow I stray,
The feather'd songsters chirp on ev'ry spray ;
The swain with artless music fills the vale,
The gath'ring herd that lows to meet the pail,
The ruddy maid, with bashful looks of love,
The sportive lambkins and, the cooing dove,
The noisy geese, that gabble round the brook,
The twitt'ring swallow, and the cawing rook,
The aged fires, that tell the daily news,
The playful children, easy to amuse ;
These all, in mingled concert, crowd the green,
And close, in happy peace, the ev'ning scene.” P. 28.

The burlesque Poem on the Whig Club, is by no means smooth in its versification, or happy in its attempts at humour.

DRAMATIC.

ART. 26. *The Maid of Marienburg. A Drama, in Five Acts, from the German of Kratter.* 8vo. 208 pp. 4s. Allen, &c. 1798.

Not having the original of this drama before us, we can only speak of it as it appears in the translation. The story is briefly this. Chastinka (or Catherine) the Maid of Marienburg, and daughter of a respectable priest, has been seized by some soldiers of Peter the Great, on the storming of that town ; which had revolted against his government. She has been delivered from the soldiers by Field-Marshal Prince

Prince Menzikof, their general, and the Emperor's chief favourite, and put under the protection of the Princess Natalia, his wife. They reside with the Emperor at Peterhof, a little retreat of his near Peterburg, where the Emperor almost imperceptibly becomes enamoured of Chastinka; and when her father, pastor Gluck, who (accompanied by his son Edward) has come from Livonia in search of her, at last discovers the place of her residence, he refuses to permit her to depart with her father. She attempts in vain to escape; but, being resolutely determined not to suffer the Emperor's address, he at length, by an effort of magnanimity, consents to part with her. Finding, however, by the agitation of her spirits at taking leave, that she is really attached to him, he declares his resolution of making her his wife and Empress.

We know not whether the Maid of Marienburg was represented on the German stage, but we think it would not succeed on that of England. The plot is too barren of incident, and the dialogue not sufficiently interesting for stage effect. There is not the least attempt at wit of any kind; and the sentiments, though very moral and just, are not often expressed in pointed or energetic language. Upon the whole, it is a story in dialogue rather than a drama; though the concluding scene is interesting, and not ill written.

ART. 27. *Natalia and Menzikof, or, The Conspiracy against Peter the Great. A Tragedy in five Acts, from the German of Kratter.* 8vo. 204 pp. 4s. Allen. 1798.

Natalia Euvansky, the heroine of this tragedy, is betrothed to Field Marshal Menzikof, the favourite of Peter the Great; who had raised him from the lowest degree to be his first General and Minister. Her father, Prince Amilka, (a complete villain) being engaged in a conspiracy against the Emperor, and hating his intended son in law, determines to make him and Natalia, in appearance at least, parties to his treason; that, in case of detection, they may also suffer. The Field Marshal, for this purpose, plied with wine, and (by rather a clumsy contrivance) excited to be jealous of the Emperor; till, in a transport of rage, he signs his name to a confederation against him. Natalia, who refuses to join in the conspiracy, is deceived by the resemblance between two papers, and signs the confederation, supposing it to be her marriage contract. On the breaking out of the conspiracy, Menzikof, having repented of his rashness, rescues the Emperor from the assassins, but his signature to the confederation appearing, is tried as an accomplice, and only acquitted on the interposition of the Emperor, who pleads his cause in disguise. Natalia, rather than accuse her father of the imposture practised on her, and be confronted with him, suffers sentence of death to be passed on herself, and is led out to execution with the conspirators; but saved by the dying declaration of Amilka, who is struck at last with remorse. Such is the outline of the plot; which is filled up by an underplot and several subordinate characters. Like most of the German plays with which we are acquainted, it has some extravagant and some insipid scenes; but the concluding part is interesting. From some circumstances in

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the piece, we conclude the author to be one of the *Illuminati*. He introduces a High Priest among the conspirators, and takes care to make him the most abandoned (if possible) of the whole crew. One of his associates calmly asks him "*how many times he studied through his Bible before he became so complete a villain &c.*" To which the priest as gravely replies, "he was already so perfect there that it needed no Bible to complete him." This is the *ne plus ultra* of modern philosophism. It "*out-herods Herod.*" Voltaire himself could scarcely have equalled it.

NOVEL.

ART. 28. *The Libertines, a Novel.* 2 Vols. 12mo. 5s. Robinson. 1798.

There is a great deal of ingenuity and contrivance, some good writing, and even good verses in this novel; but it is more gloomy and terrible than even the Italian of Mrs. Radcliffe. We presume it to be the production of a youthful pen, which has been directed by a very warm and fertile imagination. We see, however, and acknowledge, a very respectable degree of talent, which due exercise and discipline may elevate to excellence.

PHILOSOPHY.

ART. 29. *Essays Political, Economical, and Philosophical.* By Benjamin Count of Rumford, Esq. &c. Vol. II. *Essay VIII. Of the Propagation of Heat in various Substances. Essay IX. An Inquiry concerning the Source of the Heat excited in Friction.* Cadell and Davies. 1798.

These two Essays which form a part of the second volume of Count Rumford's Experimental Essays, begin with page 389, and end with page 496. A copper-plate engraving accompanies each Essay.

The contents of this publication are by no means new. The 8th Essay consists of two papers, which were read before the Royal Society in the years 1786 and 1792. The 9th Essay contains only one paper, which was read before the Royal Society in January, 1798. Count Rumford's reasons for publishing those papers in the present form, as well as his promises of speedy and more practically useful publications, will best appear from the following part of his Introduction to the 8th Essay.

"As reference has frequently been made to these papers in several of the preceding Essays; and as many of the experiments of which an account is given in them, are not only interesting in themselves, but are necessary to be known in all their details, in order to judge of several important conclusions that have been founded on their results, the author has thought that it would not be improper to republish them under the present form.

"The Essays which are destined to compose the next volume (many of which are already in great forwardness) are all on practical subjects of a popular nature, and of general utility; and on that account it was judged best to keep them separate from those contained in this volume, which partake more of the nature of abstruse philosophical investigations.

"Various unforeseen events have contributed to retard the publication of the promised Essays on Kitchen Fire-places—on Cottage Fire-places—and on Clothing; but the author has well-founded hopes of being able to bring them forward in the course of a few months."

ART. 30. *Tables for accurately ascertaining, by Weight or Measure, the Strength of Spirituous Liquors, from 30° to 85° of Temperature. With an Introduction, describing the Principles of the Tables, by a Variety of Examples. By John Wilson. 12mo. 5s. Creech, Edinburgh; Rivingtons, London. 1798.*

These Tables are contained in 116 pages, and are preceded by an Introduction of 72 pages.

In the Introduction, the author acknowledges that his calculations may be considered, upon the whole, as an improvement of the Tables contained in the 82nd volume of the Philosophical Transactions; on which, as upon an accurate and steady foundation, he has created the structure of his work. He gives ample extracts from Sir Charles Blagden's reports, which accompany the above-mentioned Tables in the 80th and 82nd volumes of the Philosophical Transactions; after which, he describes, with sufficient minuteness and perspicuity, not only the use of the tables, but likewise the nature and the use of the instruments; as well as various other articles, that are concerned either in the investigation of the subject, or in the practical method of ascertaining the strength of spirits, or compounds of spirit and water. He mentions, for instance, the proper method of distilling water and spirit; describes the thermometer, the weighing bottle, the balance and weights, &c.

He also gives the principal arithmetical rules that may be necessary for the calculation of whatever belongs to the subject; and illustrates them by means of clear and suitable examples.

The tables, which follow the Introduction, are, 1st. A table of one page, under the title of "Standard Spirit. Specific Gravity and Weight in Grains per Gallon." 2. A table of one page, entitled "Distilled Water. Specific Gravity and Weight in Grains per Gallon." 3dly. "A Spirit Table, requisite for discovering the strength of any spirit, from the temperature of 30° up to the 85th degree of Fahrenheit's thermometer, from distilled water, whose specific gravity is estimated as 1, or 1.00000 up to a pure spirit in specific gravity 0.82500, both at standard heat, or 60°; also shewing the proportion of spirit and of water by weight at the head of the columns; and at the bottom are given the same proportions reduced to measure, contained in 100 parts of the compound: and likewise the measure of water and of spirit concentrated after the mixture, *per cent.* at 60°, or to be added by the compounder." This table extends from page 5 to page 114.

4th. "A Table of Troy and Avoirdupois Weights," which reduces all the subdivisions of the pound to the general denomination of grains.

5th, and lastly, a short Table, "Comparing the quantity of spirit of wine *per cent.* conformable to Clarke's Hydrometer, and the compound Standard spirit, wherewith the instrument nearly corresponded by experiment."

Notwithstanding a better arrangement of the materials of the Introduction, might be wished by the reader, we look upon this publication as a very comprehensive and useful work.

MEDICINE.

ART. 31. *A View of the Science of Life, on the Principles established in the Elements of Medicine, of the late celebrated John Brown, M. D. with an Attempt to correct some important Errors of that Work. And Cases in Illustration, chiefly selected from the Records of their Practice, at the General Hospital at Calcutta.* By William Yates and Charles Maclean: To which is subjoined, a Treatise on the Action of Mercury upon living Bodies, and its Application for the Cure of Diseases of indirect Debility; and a Dissertation on the Source of epidemic and pestilential Diseases, in which is attempted to prove, by a numerous Enumeration of Facts, that they never arise from Contagion, but are always produced by certain States, or certain Vicissitudes of the Atmosphere. By Charles Maclean, of Calcutta. 8vo. 230 pp. 5s. Philadelphia. 1797.

In this little volume the Brunonian doctrine, as it is called, is explained and enforced, or we should rather say, the nakedness of the system is developed, and its deformity exposed; for if the practice recommended in this work, is founded on that system, it cannot be reproved in terms too severe. In proof of this, we shall give an abridgement of the first case we meet with in the volume.

Francis Lute, aged 35, was admitted into the Hospital at Calcutta, on the 1st of May, 1796, his complaint, pains over the whole body, with symptoms that indicated an exhausted constitution. On the 15th, his mouth is said to be sore from the use of mercury, employed to excite or rouse the powers of life, he was also much purged and griped, doubtless from the same cause. Opium was now given, we are told, and continued to the 3d of June, when his complaints are said to have been much relieved. On the 21st of August, he again fell under the care of this author, in a state of extreme debility, with excessive purging, and bloody stools. He had continued, during the whole time, in the hospital, but under the care of other gentlemen. Eighty drops of the tincture of opium were directed to be given night and morning each day. August 24th, five hundred and forty drops were given in draughts in the course of this day, and 200 drops in a clyster; 25th, 200 drops in a clyster every three hours, and 150 drops in a draught at night; 26th, the clysters continued, the draughts three times in the day; at nine in the evening of this day, a clyster with

400 drops of tincture of opium, and a fourth draught with 200 drops; 27th and 28th, the clysters and draughts continued every two hours, and a draught at night with 400 drops; 29th, a draught with 200, and a clyster with 500 drops of laudanum to be given every hour; and continued every hour or two until the 2nd of September, when 500 drops of laudanum were directed to be given in a draught, and to be repeated every hour; clysters with the same quantity of laudanum every hour or two. On the 4th of September he is said to be mending. The draughts and clysters were directed to be continued occasionally. On the 30th, he is said to have had only two stools, but without pain, and to feel his appetite returning.

We have not taken the trouble to calculate the quantity of opium, here supposed to be given, as it seems incredible that any human constitution should be able to bear such enormous doses. That they were taken seems also doubtful, as the writer says, p. 59, "From the good sense and punctuality of the patient, I have a perfect reliance upon his having conformed to my orders, in every particular, as far as it is possible for patients in an hospital to do." It should be added, that the author says, in the same page, "during the whole of the time that he was under my cure, he had an allowance of wine, from one to two or three bottles in the twenty-four hours," which part of the prescription, it is probable the patient correctly followed, whatever he might do with the laudanum. The quantity of opium contained in the tincture here used, is also left uncertain. "It should be observed," the author says, p. 60, "in order to prevent a rash imitation, where the circumstances are not alike, that the tincture of opium employed upon this occasion, was much weaker than what is usually made in Europe; that a very great degree of exhaustion had taken place, and that the doses were gradually increased, from eighty drops to five hundred." In another part of the volume, Mr. Maclean describes the tincture as containing one-third less than that directed by the college. But this still leaves the doses enormously large.

It may be worth the while of the inventors and favourers of new doctrines in medicine, to consider, that while they perhaps only mean to advertise them into a degree of celebrity, and have prudence enough to use their medicines cautiously, or in conjunction with others of known efficacy; their pupils or converts, young or inexperienced, taking to the very letter the accounts of extraordinary cures boasted in their publications, may be induced to place greater dependence on them, or to use them in a more bold and hardy manner, and thence occasion dreadful mischief to those who put themselves under their management. It certainly would be right in medicine, as well as in politics, not to forsake, and totally abolish the old system, by which much good, if not all that is possible is done, until we have had opportunity of fully ascertaining the value of that we mean to substitute in its place, which must require much time for investigation and experiment. Partial changes may in the mean time be made, provided they be introduced cautiously and leisurely, and then left to mix and incorporate with the existing system, before any further alteration be attempted. But this slow and gradual mode of advancing, does not seem to suit the temper of the reformers of the present age.

ART. 32. *A Lecture on the Situation of the large Blood Vessels of the Extremities; and the Methods of making effectual pressure on the Arteries, in Cases of dangerous Effusions of Blood from Wounds, delivered to the Scholars of the late Maritime School at Chelsea, and first printed for their Use. Third Edition. To which is now added, a brief Explanation of the Nature of Wounds, more particularly those received from Fire-Arms. By William Blizard, F. R. S. 12mo. 84 pp. 3s. Dilly. 1798.*

In the lecture, the author, in a clear and perspicuous manner, shows the method of stopping a hæmorrhage, or violent effusion of blood, in consequence of an artery being wounded in either the upper or lower extremities. This consists in the right application of the tourniquet, or of ligature round the arm or thigh, when a tourniquet cannot be immediately procured. To do this effectually, it is necessary to be acquainted with the course of the large blood vessels, over which the compress, or pad of the tourniquet is to be placed. But as this could not be made perfectly intelligible, by a simple description, the author has added an engraved figure, on which the course of these vessels is delineated.

Then follows an ingenious exposition of the nature and treatment of wounds, particularly gun-shot wounds. This is done rather in the way of short notices, or observations, than as a regular treatise, and will not admit of abridgment; we shall therefore content ourselves with recommending it to the notice of surgeons, particularly those of the army and navy, to whose use it is in a peculiar manner dedicated.

ART. 33. *A few General Rules and Instructions, very necessary to be attended to by those of both Sexes, who are afflicted with Ruptures. By William Turnbull, A. M. Surgeon to the Eastern Dispensary, and the Society for the Relief of the ruptured Poor. 12mo. 46 pp. 1s. 6d. Johnson. 1798.*

Arnaud in his dissertation on ruptures, has said, it seems, that one person of every ten, is afflicted with rupture, of one species or other. The present author thinks this proportion too large, and supposes that only one in fifteen is so affected. On what data either of these gentlemen formed their calculations, we cannot conjecture, but should suppose that one in thirty, or perhaps forty, would be nearer the truth.

The author gives a short description of the most common species of ruptures, and then adds, rules and cautions to be observed by persons afflicted with them. These, although in general too complicated to be understood, or attended to by the patients, may be useful to young practitioners in surgery, living in the country, who may not have opportunities of seeing much practice in the complaint.

DIVINITY.

- ART. 34. *A Charge delivered to the Clergy of Llandaff, in June 1798. by R. Watfon, D.D. F.R.S. Bifhop of Llandaff.* 8vo. 34 pp. 1s. Faulder. 1798.

With refpect to this Charge, we fhall at prefent take a very unufual ftep. Accident has diverted our attention from it till too late in this month to give it a place among our more important articles; yet on reading it we find the matter of it much too excellent, and the expreffions much too forcible and judicious, to allow us to confine our notice of it to this part of our publication. Defirous, therefore, not to feem any longer inattentive to it, we now mention it here, but only to announce, that in the next month we fhall give a full and careful account of it in an early part of our Review. It may be confidered, as the learned and able author fays, as a Supplement to his late "Address to the People of Great Britain." We think it a moft ufeful and excellent Supplement, and in that light, fhall hold it as a point of indifpenfable duty to give it all the celebrity it is poffible for our labours to confer.

(To be reviewed at large in our next.)

- ART. 35. *The Yocfin; or, An Appeal to good Senfe. By the Rev. J. Duteus, Hiftoriographer to his Majefty, Rector of Elfdon in Northumberland, and F. R. S. Translated from the French by the Rev. Thomas Falconer.* 8vo. 59 pp. 1s. 6d. Cadell and Davies. 1798.

The original of this work, we are told in the Adverfement, was publifhed at Rome in the year 1769, in French. It appears to have been defigned as a proteft againft the blafphemies of Voltaire and his followers, and is very properly tranflated and re-publifhed at this period, when the confequences of their pernicious writings are fo fenfibly felt throughout Europe. The author firft ftates the infinite importance of religion to the welfare of mankind. He then briefly characterizes the modern pretenders to philofophy, who have endeavoured to difcredit and deftroy Chriftianity; particularly Rouffeau and Voltaire. On the latter of thefe he is very juftly fevere, and relates an anecdote that ftro ngly marks his abandoned profligacy, and the meanness of his malice. "I was informed," fays the author, "by one of his friends, that one day after dinner he called in his fervants, and enquired of them all in fucceffion whether they were Chriftians, and prefenting a glafs of wine to thofe who replied in the negative, he threatened to difmifs one who hefitated to fecond his malicious zeal." To the authority of this vain and fuperficial, though witty, philofopher, he oppofes a catalogue of fome of the wifeft and moft diftinguifhed men in modern times, who have gloried in profefling or defending Chriftianity. He alfo gives fome ufeful hints for the behaviour of thofe Chriftians who may fall into the fociety of infidels, and he briefly but fenfibly fuggelts the proper arguments againft the different fpecies of them, namely, *Atheifts, Theifts,*

Theists, (whom he defines to be those who admit a Deity but deny his providence and government of the world) and *Deists*, "properly so named, who admit the same attributes which we assign to the Divinity, who acknowledge the immortality of the soul, punishments and rewards, but who reject every kind of doctrine and exterior worship." The author concludes with a very energetic and *seasonable* exhortation to stem the torrent of impiety; the consequences of which he seems in some degree to have anticipated.

We have seldom met with a more useful Treatise on the subject of infidelity, and strongly recommend it to the perusal of our readers. The original is not before us; but we conceive that one expression in the translation (which is in general well written) must be a mistake. It is in page 34. where enumerating the classes of infidels, the translator has the expression *in fieri*; which (as it is probably *ex* in the original) should have been *lastly*, as a better word of distinction,

ART. 36. *A Sermon preached in the Parish Church of Shriden, in the County of Hereford, Dec. 19. 1797, being the Day appointed for a Public Thanksgiving, for the signal and important victories won by his Majesty's Fleets in the present War. By the Rev. E. Norris, M.A. late Fellow of Merton College, Oxford. 4to. 19 pp. Cooke, Oxford. 1798.*

This discourse, which has never been expressly published, having fallen into our hands, we cannot resist the desire of laying some particulars of it before the public; with the double view of doing justice to the author, and persuading him to lay aside that reserve which has hitherto confined it to private circulation.

The text is calculated to stand as a general justification of acts of public thanksgiving for successes obtained in war, being taken from that part of the sacred history where Jehoshaphat and his people give praise to the Lord, [2 Chron. xx. 27—30.] for a signal victory. Touching briefly upon the propriety of mixing religion with war, and the insidious endeavours made to silence Christian exhortation on such subjects, the author proceeds more particularly to apply the example of Jehoshaphat and Israel. Their enemies, he observes, were full of corruption and idol try, and it was an interference attended with the most beneficial consequences, when God enabled his people to prevail against them.

"Having thus seen," he proceeds, "that, through the perverseness of mankind, it becomes reasonable to suppose that the Almighty may, consistently with his mercy, "go forth with the host to battle," as in the natural world he is said, "to ride in the storm," for the intimidation and correction of a wicked world*; and as the circumstances

* "As there are many who still pretend not to see how the providence of God can be with decency said to be affected by the corruptions of man overlooking the various analogous circumstances that have place in the natural world, I cannot forbear subjoining the following illustration of this matter from the Pere Bohours' thoughts of

stances of our chief enemy are not far from resembling the abominations of the heathen world, having cast off the living God, and fallen down to idols of their own fancy (I allude to their absurd images and symbols of luxury *); having besides broken through the chief connections of civil society, and brought all ancient establishments and principles to one promiscuous ruin; surely it is not far from the office of a minister of Christ's Gospel to take part in such scenes; to animate the wavering, to strengthen the weak, to profess more openly and boldly than ever, his own confidence in Christianity, and to warn his fellow creatures against the wiles and fallacies of an enemy, who, under pretence of greater knowledge and more independent principles, would willingly exclude both the wisdom and supremacy of God, from the transactions and events of this lower world." P. 9.

It will be seen by this small specimen, that the author is one of those whose minds are active in the pursuit of useful information on every side. Further proof of the same fact appears in various other notes; and the whole Sermon is in a high degree formed to be useful to the hearer or reader, and creditable to the author. We particularly admire the application of the text to the august ceremony then going on at St. Paul's Cathedral. "We have," says the preacher, "a good and gracious sovereign who, *this day*, like Jehoshaphat, is in the fore-front of his people, praising and glorifying God."

ART. 37. *Atheism refuted; or a Discourse to prove the Existence of a God.* 8vo. Johnson. 6d. 1798.

This is a performance from the hands of the new sect styling themselves Theophilanthropists; the object, of course, the propagation of Deism. The only thing we shall say of it is, that we neither admit that "the novelty of the axiom, the mathematical deduction to a conclusive proof, the acuteness of the reasoning, the learning displayed, or the simplicity of the style (*can justify or substantiate the assertion*) that there is nothing in ancient or modern learning, from the wisdom of Plato to the syllogism of Clarke, that has so satisfactorily proved the existence of a God." The well-known principles of some of the leading members of the society, are sufficient to render the performance suspicious; and the subject itself requires no such support.

of the Fathers. "This expression of Tertullian's, that God is good *as* in his own account, and *just* in ours, leaves a great deal to the thoughts, and presents at first the idea of the Sun, which of itself gives beneficent light, and only forms thunder, when the earth supplies it with matter."

"It was consistent with their modern idolatry, that one of their revolutionary admirals (Latouche) should thus describe his escape from the dangers of a storm at sea: "We owe our existence to the tutelary genius which watches over the destiny of the French republic, and the defenders of liberty and equality."

ART.

ART. 38. *Observations on the Evidence of Christ's Resurrection, the principal Objections answered; and the divine Origin of the Christian Religion clearly proved. Two Sermons, preached at the Octagon Chapel, in Norwich, April the 8th, 1798. By J. Houghton. 8vo. 2s. Johnson. 1798.*

The old and unanswerable proofs of our Saviour's resurrection, are repeated and enforced in these discourses, with great strength and precision. The publication is rendered more interesting, by pointing out to the attention of the reader, a list of the more valuable books on this important subject. The language is plain, simple, and energetic; and if it does not rise to elegance, it never offends from coarseness or vulgarity. The Sermons exhibit a respectable testimony of the preacher's zeal, diligence, and ability.

ART. 39. *An Alarm to the Public, and a Bounty promised to every Loyal Subject who will come forward to repel the Enemy. Arms and Accoutrements provided for every Man gratis. 8vo. 15 pp. 6d. Bush, Yarmouth; Longman, London.*

This little pamphlet, consists in ranging passages from scripture in one column, and parodying them on the opposite column, in terms apparently applying to an invasion of the country, but meant as a recommendation of the Christian virtues under the continued and well-known allusion to a state of warfare.

ART. 40. *An Extract from the Journal of Mr. John Nelson, Preacher of the Gospel; containing an Account of God's Dealings with him from his Youth, to the Forty Second Year of his Age. Written by Himself. 12mo. 1s. Lee and Hurst. 1798.*

This writer appears to have been a common soldier, and this narrative of his life, which is full of the rankest fanaticism, induces us to address him in the emphatic language of scripture, "Soldier, be content with thy wages;" and we may add, do not any more attempt to write on subjects, which from ignorance thou canst not understand.

POLITICS.

ART. 41. *Arguments for and against an Union between Great Britain and Ireland considered. 8vo. 31 pp. 6d. Reprinted. Stockdale. 1798. The same pamphlet. 8vo. 58 pp. 1s. 6d. Reprinted. Wright. 1798.*

This popular pamphlet (which is said to have gone through several editions in Dublin, and is attributed to Mr. Cooke) is reprinted here by two different booksellers. In both editions it appears to be substantially the same; except that a proposal of Dean Tucker on the same subject is prefixed to Mr. Stockdale's. The very important question it professes to examine is far beyond the province of mere criticism.

cism. We shall therefore content ourselves with saying it is temperately and judiciously discussed in this little work. The author seems to have considered the subject in every point of view, and, though an advocate for the Union, fairly states the arguments that may be urged against it. Above all, he recommends that the subject may receive a calm and dispassionate consideration. We will extract a few paragraphs from the concluding part of this tract, as a specimen of the work.

" An UNION has this advantage—it may be our Salvation ; it cannot be our Ruin.

" Equal Liberty, equal Privilege, with the people of Great Britain, guaranteed by a Parliament composed from the Representatives of both kingdoms, and upheld by the power of all the subjects of the two Islands ; in short, the consolidation of Great Britain and Ireland into One Kingdom, with One Constitution, One King, One Law, One Religion, can never be the ruin of Ireland. It widens the foundation of our liberties, it advances our prospects of improvement, it strengthens the basis of prosperity in domestic security, and ensures our Imperial Independence by consolidating our Power.

" There may be prejudices to overcome ; there may be private interests to manage and to compensate ; there may be the intrigues of our enemies to counteract ; but if the nature of our situation, our permanent and great interests, demonstrate an Union to be salutary for our perpetual improvement, security, and stability, let us boldly follow where our reason leads, though private interest and local prejudice, and hostile intrigue, shall attempt to impede and arrest our progress." P. 29.

" The premises which have been stated cannot be controverted. If our situation be imputed to mal-administration, who can secure us from its recurrence ? If to the instability of affairs, who can insure their future consistency ? If to the prevalence of the Protestant Monopoly, who can induce men to relinquish what appeared to them the security for their property ? If to the efforts of the Catholics, who can force them to abandon their claims ?

" Is there not some settlement to be anxiously wished for, which may lay these causes of discontent asleep, and quiet them for ever ? We have been sufficiently distracted and harassed. We have drank enough from the bitter cup of dissension. Shall then any attempt to ensure tranquillity be the source of discord ; shall the discussion of a plausible theory lead to passion and resentment ; and an honest attempt to allay the commotions of the State, and to settle its jarring interests, be a provocation to new animosities and fresh outrages ?

" The enemies of the empire have stated, that Ireland can never be happy until she is separated from England ; *it is the opinion of many of her friends, that she never can be truly happy till she is entirely united with England.*

" The one attempt would make Ireland the scene of contest in Europe ; would deluge her with blood ; would reduce her to desolation : the latter, by making her power the power of Great Britain, and
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the power of Great Britain her own, would enable the British Empire to defy every hostile attack, and to secure to the happy coasts of the two Islands, all the blessings of genuine and rational LIBERTY, of true and solid INDEPENDENCE and SECURITY." P. 31.

Should the measure of an union be proposed, we cannot wish it to be agitated with more temper and candour than appear in this work. We have since collected every publication we can find on this subject, and shall give a general account of them in our Review for the ensuing month.

ART. 42. *The Causes of the Rebellion in Ireland dignified; in an Address to the People of England; in which it is proved by historical Facts, that the System for some Years pursued in that Country has driven it into its present dreadful Situation. By an Irish Emigrant. 2vo. 78 pp. Jordan. 1798.*

The object of this Irish Emigrant is (as the title of his book implies) to throw the whole odium of the rebellion in Ireland on the government of the two countries. His argument is conducted with address; but some of the facts are, we think, very questionable, particularly his assertion that the excesses of the Orange men (as the Protestant party are called) preceded any enmity on the part of the Catholics. His representation of those excesses, and of the rigorous measures adopted afterwards by government, we believe also to be greatly overcharged. We are also far from agreeing with him on the propriety of an armed body of men assembling to petition, as they term it, but really to dictate to parliament; still less as to the constitutional right of assembling delegates, not for any corporate body, but to represent the whole nation, thereby assuming a weight and authority paramount to the constitutional legislature of the kingdom. The very attempt in this country was made the subject of prosecutions for treason, and by all admitted to be a misdemeanor at least. This writer, like all others of the same stamp, declares the discontents in Ireland to be founded on the refusal of what is (improperly) called Catholic Emancipation, and a Reform of Parliament. Unfortunately for him, the leaders of the rebellion have since confessed, that these were the mere ostensible pretences; and that the real object was a separation from Great Britain, and the formation of a republic under the protection of France. Political Prophets are often unfortunate in their speculations. "A military Chief Governor has been sent over," (says this writer) "not to appease, but to subdue." But this military Chief Governor has not only subdued (so far as was necessary) but has appeased wherever gentle methods were practicable; and further measures, there is reason to hope, will completely tranquillize that unhappy kingdom.

ART.

ART. 43. *State of the Country in the Autumn of 1798.* 8vo. 32 pp.
1s. Wright.

During a contest so arduous and so unprecedented as that in which Great Britain is engaged, those writers have a just claim to praise, who, prompted by patriotic motives, have occasionally taken a view of our situation, awakened gratitude for dangers escaped, and inspired courage to meet those which yet are to be encountered. Of this class is the writer before us; who is said to be a nobleman well known for some political writings of a similar kind.

The present work is a rapid sketch, and, if it contain no great novelty, has its use; as, in political as well as religious topics, we more frequently need to be reminded than informed of our duty. The following passages will afford a good specimen of the author's style and manner:

"Unanswerable as the question must be, there are some who will not fail to ask us again and again, When shall we have peace?—Let these persons ask themselves seriously, Whether they believe we have any choice? and, even if we had, let them look at such of the neighbours of France, as are actually at peace with her, and ask themselves, Whether they think their situation is much to be envied?—That our cause will finally triumph; that Religion will subdue Atheism; Virtue, Vice; and Order, Anarchy; we may consider as certain. But how long the conflict may last, it is not in the power of MAN to determine.

"We should consider how great are the means which Providence has placed in our hands:—We have a powerful and triumphant Navy, a gallant and spirited Army, an unparalleled Commerce, and a flourishing Revenue. It is our duty to use these advantages with wisdom and firmness, and to support any difficulties which may arise in the contest, with constancy and patience.

"As often as France has shewn the least disposition to return to a SYSTEM OF MODERATION, the Government of this country have endeavoured to avail themselves of it, and to lay a foundation for peace. Hitherto their efforts have proved ineffectual; but the same policy will be adopted whenever THE DISPOSITION AND CONDUCT OF THE ENEMY will admit of it.

"As long, however, as it shall appear to be the system of France to spread dissension over every part of the civilized world, to crush every government that disputes her will, and to measure her rights only by her power, it is a duty we owe to God, to ourselves, and to the world at large, to employ our whole strength in opposing her designs, and to assist and support every state which is desirous, however late, of taking up arms in the common defence. We hope it will not be our fate to contend alone; but whatever be the conduct of other countries, our determination is taken. They may crouch.—They may temporize. They may submit.—We know our duty.—We feel as Christians and as Men. In the issue of the present contest, the existence of all Religion and all Government, and the Rights of Human Nature, are involved. We trust We have the spirit, We know We have the power to defend them." P. 49.

ART.

ART. 44. *A Short Account of the principal Proceedings of Congress in the late Session, and a Sketch of the State of Affairs between the United States and France in July 1798. In a Letter from Robert Goddove Harper, Esq. of South Carolina, to One of his Constituents.* 8vo. 24 pp. 1s. Philadelphia printed; London reprinted, for Wright, Piccadilly. 1798.

Mr. Harper, so well known for his *Observations on the Dispute between the United States of America and France*, relates in this letter the measures taken by the American Congress in consequence of the insolent treatment of their envoys, and the rejection of every overture of accommodation, by France. The military preparations of America are detailed, with her plans of finance and resources. Towards the end of his letter Mr. H. takes a view of the situation of Europe, thinks the power of France "likely to fall as rapidly as it has risen," and in spirited terms animates his countrymen to resist it.

ART. 45. *The Fall of Underwald. By an Eye-witness. Translated from the German.* 8vo. 20 pp. 6d. (or 4s. 6d. the Dozen) Wright, Piccadilly. 1798.

We should scarcely have thought it possible; after the many instances that have already occurred, proving the unjust conduct of the French rulers in their treatment of foreign nations, that a new case could arise, displaying in a more striking point of view their perfidy and injustice, their cruelty and oppression. Yet such a case is exhibited by *The Fall of Underwald*. Our readers may have seen, in the public papers, the account given by the French General, Schauenbourg, of his conquest of this small Canton, and its neighbour the Canton of Schwitz; but few are acquainted with the treachery which led the way to, or the devastation which followed this total extinction of Helvetic liberty. It is here related, as we are assured by an eye-witness, in a brief and affecting narrative. We cannot better state the utility of such publications, than by expressing (in the words of the Preface) our hope "that every Englishman who reads it, whilst he execrates the oppressors, and makes the cause of the victims his own, will remember, that, if there is now a Swiss Directory at Aarau, there has recently existed an Irish Directory at Dublin, and that there are still amongst us men who are labouring to establish an English Directory in London."

ART. 46. *Conduite du Gouvernement Français envers la République de Genève.* 8vo. 18 pp. 6d. Londres. No Publisher's Name. 1798.

This little tract contains a statement of those treacherous and oppressive measures which have been pursued by France towards their feeble and unoffending neighbour the Republic of Geneva. These

had been fully described, in their early stages, by the able pen of Sir Francis D'Ivernois. But when he closed his narrative, Geneva, though oppressed and nearly ruined by sanguinary revolutions, was still (at least in name and form) an independent state. This account, by Mr. Chauvet, after tracing briefly the conduct and designs of France in effecting those revolutions, pursues the sad story to its close; when *la grande nation*, finding it convenient to incorporate Geneva with her own territory, and failing in the intrigues by which she hoped to induce the Genevese to solicit an union, blockaded and reduced them to the utmost extremity, and, when that move seemed also likely to fail, seized on the city by their troops (who had been admitted as friends,) and procured a timid and reluctant vote under the terror of military execution.

ART. 47. *Observations on the Political Conduct of the Protestant Dissenters; including a retrospective View of their History from the Time of Queen Elizabeth; in Five Letters to a Friend. By the Rev. David Rivers, late Preacher to a Congregation of Dissenters at Highgate.* 8vo. 42 pp. 1s. Rivingtons. 1798.

The history of England affords abundant proof, that the precautions taken by the state to guard the established church against unfair attacks, were not devised without necessity. The unfortunate reign of Charles I. exhibited, in the strongest point of view, the degree of rancour and malice to which the most tolerant church in the world may be exposed when her enemies prevail against her. Mr. D. Rivers, who appears, by the title-page, to have left the Dissenters for the Establishment, displays some symptoms of the violence of a convert; but, at the same time utters many home truths, and places them in a strong light. The historical view given by Mr. Rivers is rapid, but full of matter: and even in the fifth letter, though they are all short, he arrives at very recent facts. The Postscript states one which we think important to be either verified or refuted. It is this: "In addition to what I have stated, I cannot help adverting to the conduct of the Dissenters as to the *Voluntary Contributions*. To their eternal disgrace be it said, that at a crisis the most important the annals of this country afford; when threatened with an invasion, though called upon by the chief magistrate of the city (though circular letters were sent to their *ministers* to exhort them to contribute) neither *ministers* nor *people* stirred one step in the business, but treated the letter and the contributions with the most sovereign contempt. Will they after this conduct dare to style themselves "loyal subjects?" Oh shame, where is thy blush!"

It may be said, and probably will, that urging these points is inflaming matters, and that the persons alluded to would be loyal if they met with indulgence. But we reply, without hesitation, that they have met with indulgence, and that the way to obtain more certainly is not to show that it is merited less.

- ART. 48. *A Letter to Lady Leighton, from the Earl of Abingdon, in Consequence of her Presentation of the Colours to the Bloomsbury and Inns of Court Association. Eighth Edition, with Corrections.* 8vo. 31 pp. 1s. Barnes, No. 9, Piccadilly. 1798.

Lord Abingdon teaching a political creed to Lady L. because *she* presented the colours above mentioned, and because *he* was formerly her brother's proxy in Parliament! It might be thought that if the lady in question wished to study politics, she had a sufficiently able instructor much nearer to her. But, no!—the sagacity of Lord A. has discovered that no man not born on the soil of *England*, can possibly understand the English constitution. What portion of that knowledge is infused by the soil itself, at the time of birth, he does not inform us. This instructive lesson, after all, consists only of a scrap from a newspaper, a fragment of a sermon, and some *original* declamation from Lord A. on the power of parliament! We may thank heaven, the aristocracy suffers yet no symptom of neglect: for, had not this tract been published by an Earl, and addressed to a Lady, could it ever have seen an eighth edition?

- ART. 49. *The Family Tale; or, the Story of Pitt, Fox, and O'Connor.* 8vo. 32 pp. 1s. Hatchard. 1798.

The concerns of the nation, and the conduct of the different parties, are here represented under the common veil of an allegory, likening it to a private family; of which Mr. George is the master, Pittman is the faithful steward, Faxon, Orsling, &c. very turbulent and mischievous domestics; and the Jacobins, a set of desperate fellows, who have seized on the estate of a neighbouring gentleman (having murdered him) and now endeavour to destroy the peace of Mr. George's family. The author seems to aim at an imitation of Swift's manner; though his story is nearly copied from a paper in *The World*, containing a Letter from George Manwelly, and written, if we recollect right, by the late Earl of Oxford. This, however, is a feeble, though well-meant performance.

- ART. 50. *Evidence to Character, or the Innocent Imposture; being a Portrait of a Traitor, by his Friends and by Himself.* 8vo. 20 pp. 3d. Wright. 1798.

The evidence given by Messrs. Fox, Sheridan, Erskine, &c. to the character of Arthur O'Connor is here extracted from the well known trial at Maidstone, and contrasted with *his own* confessions, *from oath*, to the Secret Committee of the Irish House of Commons, a few months subsequent to that trial. This is done without any comment, except what is contained in a very short Introduction. The true comment must indeed occur spontaneously to every thinking mind. That so many persons of rank and education, and some of them distinguished for talents and discernment, should, through a long and confidential intercourse, (chiefly on political subjects,) have judged that man to be loyal and constitutional in his principles, who was actively engaged

engaged in a plot for the introduction of a French army; and the ruin of the constitution, would appear incredible, were not the fact attested on the oaths of the parties themselves. What must the party spirit and temper be, that could darken understandings in general so enlightened, and blunt a penetration on all other subjects so acute? that could render desirable as a companion, nay, as a political friend, the man who had fled from a charge of sedition in his own country, and feared the vengeance of the law even here? These extracts therefore are worth a thousand arguments. They set before us facts which cannot be controverted, and lead to conclusions which cannot be done away.

ART. 51. *A Letter to the Honourable Charles James Fox; showing how Appearances may deceive, and Friendship be abused.* 8vo. 27 pp. 6d. Wright. 1798.

This writer arraigns the conduct of Mr. Fox in many instances, but particularly in giving evidence to the character of A. O'Connor. On this subject we have intimated our opinion in our account of the preceding article. He is also very severe on several other members of what is (or rather *was*) called the opposition. His topics are, however, better chosen than his language.

ART. 52. *Mémoires de la Révolution; or an Apology for my Conduct in the Public Employments which I have held.* By D. J. Garat, late Minister of Justice, Minister for the Home Department, Commissary of Public Instruction, &c. &c. in the Service of the French Republic. Translated from the French, by R. Heron. 8vo. 5s. Edinburgh. 1797.

Garat was made Minister by the Brissotins, and was violently suspected of having favoured the horrid and never to be forgotten massacre of the 2nd and 3d of September. He labours very hard in this publication to exculpate himself, which whether he does or not to the satisfaction of his countrymen and readers, his book will be found to contain some curious anecdotes and illustrations of important facts. Yet most of his *Dramatis Personæ* are passed away, and remembered only by their crimes.

MISCELLANIES.

ART. 53. *A Letter to the Right Hon. Lord Chief Justice Kenyon, complaining of Justice, and pointing out the Danger to Society from Perjury, and the Facility with which the base and equivocal Testimony of Servants may destroy the Peace of private Families.* By A. Hook, Esq. 4to. 2s. Murray. 1798.

Mr. Hook, notwithstanding the repeated decisions of the Courts, perseveres in asserting his own innocence, and that of his unfortunate niece. We fear that he will obtain but little advantage from the present publication; and it is certain that the character of Lord Kenyon,

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as an upright and sagacious judge, will not be affected by any effusion of private disappointment. The question of the effect of perjury is, however, momentous to a high degree.

- ART. 54. *An Account of the Discovery of the Body of King John, in the Cathedral Church of Worcester, July 17. 1797, from authentic Communications; with Illustrations and Remarks, by Valentine Green, F. S. A. Author of the History and Antiquities of the City and Suburbs of Worcester.* 4o. 2s. 6d. Cadell and Davies. 1798.

Antiquaries had formerly differed in opinion with respect to the precise place of this monarch's interment; some averring it to have been within the choir, near the place on which the tomb stands; others, that the royal body remained within the tomb itself. The remains were found in a stone coffin, laid upon, not buried in or under, the pavement of the choir. Mr. Green has given a minute detail of the circumstances in which the body was found, with a drawing of the body, as it appeared on opening the tomb.

- ART. 55. *A Tour through the Island of Man, in 1797 and 1798; comprising Sketches of its Ancient and Modern History, Constitution, Laws, Commerce, Agriculture, Fishery, &c. including whatever is remarkable in each Parish; its Population, Inscriptions, Registers, &c. By John Feltham. Embellished by a Map of the Island, and other Plates.* 8vo. 7s. Dilly. 1798.

This title-page is of great promise, but it will be found, on examination of the book, not to promise more than is performed. This is the most circumstantial and satisfactory account of the Isle of Man that we at least have seen, and will be equally acceptable to the antiquary, and convenient to the traveller. The plates are few, and of no great importance, the contents also of the book would have justified a better map.

- ART. 56. *An Authentic Narrative of the Mutiny on Board the Ship Lady Shore; with Particulars of a Journey through Part of Brazil, in a Letter, dated Rio Janeiro, January 18, 1798, to the Rev. John Black, Woodbridge, from Mr. John Black, one of the surviving Officers of the Ship.* 8vo. 1s. 6d. Robinsons. 1798.

We have had, unfortunately of late years, too many of these narratives of incidents so highly disgraceful, while they prevailed, to the British navy. This from Mr. Black is plain, simple, and complete, and highly honourable to the Portuguese nation, who received and entertained our countrymen with the kindest hospitality.

- ART. 57. *The Sparrow.* 12mo. 2s. Newbery. 1798.

This agreeable book for children, was written by the same author who was commended in a late British Critic, for his publication called "Keeper's Travels." The object of this is to discourage, in children, all propensity to cruel treatment of animals.

FOREIGN CATALOGUE.

FRANCE.

ART. 58. *Oeuvres chirurgicales de P. J. Desault, chirurgien en chef du grand hôpital d'Humanité, et devant Hôtel Dieu de Paris, ou Tableau de sa doctrine et de sa pratique dans le traitement des maladies externes, ouvrage publié par Xavier Bichat, son élève.* 2 Vols. in 8vo. with a portrait of the author, and plates, representing different bandages or instruments of his invention. Paris, price 12 liv.

This work is divided into two parts; the first, dedicated to the maladies of the bones, treats of fractures and luxations, on which nothing of importance had appeared in this language since *Petit*; the second has for its object the maladies of the soft parts. Both of them present an accurate account of the improvements for which the art is indebted to *Desault*, which is but imperfectly given in his *Journal of Surgery*.

Esp. des Journ.

ART. 59. *Soirées littéraires.* Tome 8, complétant la 2^e. année. Ce volume contient les Olympiques de *Pindare*; des extraits biographiques sur *Jean de Hautecluse*, *P. Bizarre*, *Ant. Thyestes*, *Guil. Sal. du Bartas*, *Et. Tabourot*, *Henri du Puis*, *Robert Kenchénus*, *J. F. Savarin*, *Roche Hanauer*, *Rapin*, *Em. du Trossay*, &c. &c. &c. avec plusieurs morceaux sur différens genres de littérature, par le C. *Compé*, rédacteur. Paris.

The *Soirées littéraires* are continued on the same plan, and with the same selection of biographical researches. The 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th volumes will form the third year. *Ibid.*

ART. 60. *Sur la situation politique et financière de l'Angleterre; fragments d'un mémoire sur l'Angleterre en général; par H. S. P.* Paris.

From the following passage our readers will be enabled to form some idea of the author's style, as well as of his opinion on this subject. "Si quelqu'un," says he, "me demandoit quelle est la disposition du peuple Anglais pour la guerre, et la paix? Je n'aurois qu'une réponse à lui faire; c'est que le peuple Anglais désire la paix sans rédimuer la guerre.

"Le désir de la paix est si naturel, surtout dans une nation industrielle et commerçante, qu'il n'est pas nécessaire d'en indiquer les raisons relativement à la nation Anglaise. Mais quand je dis qu'elle ne redoute pas la guerre, il faut que je m'explique.

"La nation Anglaise regarde la guerre actuelle avec la France, comme une dispute de colonies et une guerre de finances. Elle ne voit pas le point de rencontre entre les deux ennemis. Les Anglais ne tiennent certainement pas une descente en France; et ils regardent, quoique

faussement, la descente dont les Français m'ont leur pays comme une entreprise vague, incertaine et presque chimérique. Il ne resteroit donc, suivant leur opinion, que les combats de mer; et la supériorité de la marine Anglaise sur toutes les marines de l'Europe ensemble, ne peut que rassurer la nation à cet égard. Or, se disent-ils, puisque nous disputons seulement pour des colonies que nous avons conquises, par lesquelles notre commerce a gagné, qui nous offrent beaucoup de ressources pécuniaires, et dont la restitution entière, après que la France s'est agrandie d'une manière aussi alarmante pour nous, seroit aussi impolitique que funeste et honteuse, continuons la guerre plutôt que de céder à des conditions humiliantes que le vainqueur de nos alliés, mais non pas le notre, voudroit nous dicter. Et pourquoi craindrions-nous cette guerre? Nous sommes hors d'atteinte, pour craindre les armes victorieuses de ces fiers républicains; et si, pour nous tenir en mesure, nous sommes seulement forcés d'entretenir notre marine et de faire des dépenses, eh bien! nous sommes encore assez riches pour fournir aux frais de la guerre, de quelque manière que cela puisse être, et rivaliser avec les ressources financières de notre ennemi." *Ibid.*

ITALY.

ART. 61. *Memorie della Società Italiana di Milano, &c. 1797.*

This collection contains many curious articles, among which we may particularly point out the *Observations of Spallanzani on the island of Cythera*, forming at present a department of the French republic.

The isle of Cythera has about twenty leagues of circumference. More than two thirds of its surface present only barren and craggy rocks. The only part of the isle which is cultivated produces a little corn, and grapes of an excellent quality. The climate is extremely mild and agreeable. The month of August and September are remarkable for the passage of quails, which, on their return to the coast of Africa, stop for some days at Cythera to refresh themselves after their long fatigue.

No remains can be discovered at Cythera, of the famous temple of Venus Urania, which, according to the account of *Pausanias*, was the most ancient and celebrated of any which she had in Greece. The only trace of antiquity which the islanders show to travellers, is what they call the *Bagni di Venere*, consisting of a small grotto formed in a rock, without the least ornament of art.

What deserves the attention of naturalists in Cythera is, 1. that the isle is formed by volcanos; 2. that a part of the substances which compose it, contains a great number of testaceous petrifications, which have undergone no alteration from the fire; 3. that the whole of one of its mountains is filled with the petrified bones of men and animals; 4. that there is in the island a subterraneous grotto, with numerous calcareous stalactites.

Was this island, which is at this time almost deserted, so from its first origin, or has it degenerated to its present state of sterility? Such a degeneration may, indeed, have been produced by one of those vicissitudes, to which the parts of our globe are subject; but Cythera having
been

been formed originally by volcanos, must formerly have been as much a desert, as it now is; we may even be allowed to suppose that it was still more barren, if we consider that lava and other volcanic productions decompose themselves into earth after a certain space of time.

It is then more than probable, that Cythera in the flourishing times of Greece, was in the same state in which it at present appears. But my theological ideas, the temple consecrated to Venus, the sacrifices which were offered, and the multitude of strangers who landed there, have undoubtedly contributed to give this island so great a degree of celebrity among the Greeks.

SPAIN.

ART. 62. *Observaciones sobre la historia natural, geografia, agricultura, poblacion y frutos del Reyno de Valencia. Por Don Antonio Josef Cavanilles. Tomo I. 236 pp. II. 338 pp. in fol.—Observations on the Natural History, Geography, Agriculture, Population, and Production of the Kingdom of Valencia, by Don A. J. Cavanilles. Tom. I. II. with Maps and many Plates. Madrid. 1797.*

This is unquestionably one of the most important works that have appeared in Spain in modern times. The author, who has distinguished himself by his botanical publications, and who has, ever since the year 1791, travelled in his own country at the expence of the king, first of all visited the province of Valencia, where he passed upwards of three years.

Valencia contains 838 square miles, of which about 240 consist of champaign land and vallies, and the rest of mountains. There are four principal rivers, and four likewise of a secondary rank, with an infinite number of smaller streams and springs. The mountains consist chiefly of lime-stone, though there are some, particularly towards the north, which contain chalk with sand. In the mountains of several districts, are likewise found cinnabar, copper, iron, cobalt, and lead; as there are also in other places a number of crystals, known under the name of *Jacintos de Compsfella*. The plains, the number of which is small, lie generally between the sea and the foot of the mountains; the soil being sandy, mixed with marle. In the interior districts of the country, its component parts are generally clay with marle. The prevailing colours of the soil are white and red; the former, however, is more common than the latter. The quality of the soil is such, that with proper cultivation, it will yield not only almost all the useful vegetable productions of Europe, but likewise of America. The author speaks very highly of the industry of the inhabitants, who take advantage of every spot of land; if the soil is fruitful, they have three and even four harvests annually; if it is poor, they neglect no means of improving it. In the extensive marshy tract of Albufera, notwithstanding the very unhealthy nature of the climate, many thousand persons are employed in the cultivation of rice. This and silk form the principal articles of commerce in Valencia, and bring in yearly upwards of 9,000,000 of pesos. Of the population, Mr. C. gives the following statements.

statements. In the year 1600, there were not quite 100,000 horses in the country; in 1609, not fewer than 200,000 Moors were driven out of it, so that the number of inhabitants was diminished by about one half, and even the remainder gradually reduced by the war in that century, and still more in the beginning of this, by the contests about the succession. After a peace was concluded, their numbers certainly increased, though in 1718, they did not amount to more than 255,080. When agriculture began to be encouraged, and the soil was found to be so productive, the population increased so rapidly, that, in 1761, the number was 604,612; seven years afterwards, 716,886; and, in 1787, had risen to 733,084.

ART. 63. *Encyclopedia metódica, dispuesta por orden de materias, traducida del Frances al Castellano.*—*Encyclopédie méthodique, arranged according to Order of Matter*, translated from the French into the Spanish Language. Madrid. Small Folio.

This work possesses great advantages over the French *Encyclopédie méthodique*, of which it is a translation. It will be completed in about 60 volumes; of which, seven volumes will contain the plates. The paper and type are infinitely superior to those of the French *Encyclopédie*. The following is a concise account of the different divisions as far as the work has hitherto proceeded.

I. *Natural History of Animals*, T. I, II, 1411 pp. translated by Don H. M. Sanz y Chanas and Don Joseph Mallent, with considerable additions, both in regard to domestic and American animals; as also many new articles of American animals, which had been omitted by Deben-ton and Buffon.

II. *Dictionary of Grammar and Literature*, translated by Father Luis Minguéz de S. Fernando. T. I, 630 pp. though it contain the letter A only. Besides several new articles, the additions consist chiefly of examples from Spanish poets and orators; together with an improved system of Spanish *Synonyms*, in which the translator has chiefly availed himself of Roubaud, not considering Davila's *Ensayo de los Synonymos*, 1757, to deserve his attention. He did not, however, know that a very valuable work on this subject had been published, in 1789, at Vienna, by J. L. de la Huerta, the then Secretary of Legation there.

III. *The Art of War*, translated by Don Luis Castanon. T. I, A to Cazador; 563 pp. The translator remarks, that this part of the French *Encyclopédie*, is almost a literal version of the Spanish book; *Las reflexiones militares del Marques de Santa Cruz de Mercenado*. There are more than an hundred new articles and additions to be found in the letter A.

IV. *Academic Arts*. One volume complete; 550 pp. The art of *Riding*, translated by Don Baltasar Irurozuri; those of *Dancing*, *Fencing*, and *Swimming*, by Don Gregorio Sanz, with very considerable additions and improvements.

V. *Modern Geography*, translated by Don Juan Arribas y Soria, and Don Julian de Velasco. T. I, II, 1260 pp. containing many additions and important corrections, in regard to the geography of America and Spain.

VI. *Manufactures, Arts, and Offices*, translated by Don Antonio Carbonel. Tom. I, II, 1226 pp. complete. Not only almost every article is here accompanied with additions, relating chiefly to Spanish manufactures; but there are likewise many new ones inserted.

VII. *Collection of Prints*. Tom. I, contains 292 copper-plates.

GERMANY.

ART. 64. *Doctrina Numorum veterum conscripta à Josepho Eckhel, Thesauri Casarii Numorum Germaniarumque veterum et rei antiquariæ in Universitate Vindobonensi docenda Professoro. Vol. VII. 521 pp. 4to. Vienna, 1797.*

The present volume of this valuable Numismatical Repository, begins with the Emperor *Antoninus Pius*, and ends with the tyrant *Julian*, who, after the death of *Carus*, raised himself to that situation. The eighth volume will complete the whole work. *Jena ALZ.*

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Faith against *Fame* is a contest in which the former ought ever to be victorious; and if *Loyola* has heard any ungrateful murmur that *Lord Nelson* does not merit the glorious title we gave him in our last (Art. 40.) of a *Christian Hero*, let him know that we have proof positive on the other side. *Loyola* writes speciously, and in the terms of friendship; but from the purport of his Letter, we fear he must have more of the modern Jesuit, than of the founder of the order, in his composition.

We shall probably ever have it to regret, that neither our care or activity, which we can assure our Correspondents are unremitting, can enable us to notice every publication, according to the order which its merits or importance might point out. This is the true and only reason why we have not yet reviewed the publication mentioned to us by "*A friend, indeed, to the established Church.*"

We are less anxious to satisfy a Correspondent, who thinks it unaccountable that, as "directors of the public taste, and purveyors to the rising generation," we have not yet mentioned a *Spelling Book* which has gone through four Editions.

All possible attention shall be paid to the request of A. B. C. but it is made at an unfavourable time, since nothing is more difficult than to execute letter-press perfectly in a severe frost.

We are very sorry that it does not fall in with our plan to answer the queries of *Con-Fu-Tsee*, but we will put them into hands

hands of friends, from whom they will, probably, receive a satisfactory solution.

There is very little doubt that the *Wildgoose Chase* was written by *Fletcher* alone; and the conjecture of H. I. T. that the *Person of Honour* who retrieved it, was Colonel Richard Lovelace, has great probability on its side. The same Correspondent who suggests this, informs us that the plot of the *Mysterious Mother* is related almost *Verbatim* in the ninth volume of the *Spectator*, No. 54. a book now scarce, and almost forgotten. [12mo. 1715.] The Casuist consulted, was *Mr. Perkins*, in James the First's reign.

We would willingly give all possible assistance to D. M. of Montrose, who so modestly requests it on an important subject; but he little knows how many objects imperiously demand our attention. Too many, to have allowed us yet to undertake reading a closely written Letter of 18 pages.

LITERARY INTELLIGENCE.

Capt. Scott, the translator of *Ferishta's History of the Deccan*, has now in the press his *Persian Tales of Anatulla*, literally translated from the work called *Behar Danesh*.—He purposes also to give, in a short time, a faithful and accurate version of the *Arabian Nights*, from the original Arabic MS. in six volumes, which he has lately purchased;—a work very earnestly to be desired.

Major Ouseley's Oriental Collections (the third and fourth numbers, for 1797) are now in the press; and the volume complete, for the year 1798, will be published in the course of a few months.

The celebrated *Jenisch* is preparing at Vienna a German translation of the *History of Persia*, by *Mirkhoud*, to consist of several quarto volumes.

At Gottingen, a German translation of *Major Ouseley's Persian Miscellanies* has also been undertaken.

Mr. Pyc, whose Muse seems neither chilled by time, nor jealous of his alliance with *Themis*, is employed in writing an Heroic Poem on the subject of *Alfred*. We hear he will have an antagonist in the author of *Mulvern Hills*. Ἀγὰρ δ' ἔστιν ἡ Σπορσίον.

About *Lady-day* will be published (at Messrs. Rivingtons) the first volume of a new Biographical Work, containing Memoirs of eminent persons deceased within the year 1798. To be continued annually.

Mr. Debrett has announced for publication a Vocabulary of *Sea-Phrases*, in French and English.

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